FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 MAY 1984

Gulf Shipping Crisis

The GCC Ministerial Council, in a statement carried by SPA, denounced Iranian air attacks against Kuwaiti and Saudi tankers. According to the statement, the Council decided to submit the matter to an emergency meeting of the Arab League and to the UN Security Council. Meanwhile, the Arab League secretary general condemned the Iranian attacks and once again called on Iran to come to the negotiating table, KUNA reported.

In a related development, the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in Tehran delivered a note from the Kuwaiti Government to Iran protesting the attacks on Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf, while a Kuwaiti official summoned the Iranian charge d'affaires and informed him of the Kuwait's "displeasure" over the attacks, the agency disclosed.

Reacting to the recent developments, an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio asserted that the war "imposed" by Iraq is causing a "total" lack of security in the Gulf region. The statement warned that lack of security for Iran's oil routes "shall be tantamount to insecurity for all the oil routes in the Persian Gulf."

Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that Iran would not "sit and watch" the closure of its Gulf oil routes, IRNA reported. Iran must end the war with Iraq as soon as possible with a "large-scale and far-reaching operation," he added.

Meanwhile, Tehran radio charged that Iraq is carrying out its air raids with "direct U.S. support" and information supplied by AWACS aircraft. Moreover, "an Arab diplomat" in London cited by the radio alleged that Iraqi aircraft carried out the attack on the Saudi tanker using information supplied by the AWACS aircraft.

Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi said Iran would not allow Iraq to continue striking oil tankers carrying Iranian oil, claiming that Iran had the capability to "confront them," according to IRNA.

A military spokesman cited by INA announced that Iraqi fighters carried out a new air strike against two "large naval targets" south of Khark Island, scoring "direct, effective hits." The spokesman claimed the air strikes confirmed Iraq's ability to maintain the "siege" of Khark and the other Iranian ports in the Gulf.

Iran

Voting began in Tehran and 92 other constituencies in the second part of the Majlis elections, Tehran radio announced.

Libya

Anti-Libyan Terrorists — Some 150 Palestinians are being trained in Jordan for terrorist actions against Libyans, Libyan interests, and Libyan people's bureaus in Arab and European capitals, JANA alleged, citing "confirmed information."

UK, Sudan Threatened — Libya "might" retaliate against Britain and Sudan for their part in the attack in Tripoli, the head of the Libyan People's Bureau in Rome warned, according to ANSA. AFP quoted him as saying that Libya has the right to "neutralize" the anti-Libyan terrorist camps in Sudan.

Tunisia-Libya Relations

The Political Bureau of the Socialist Destourian Party discussed measures to counter "provocations" on the Libyan-Tunisian border, Tunis radio announced. According to "informed sources" cited by AFP, there have been exchanges of fire and a big troop buildup by both countries. The sources also claimed that Libya had carried out incursions into Tunisia.

Lebanon

'Ayn al-Hulwah Clash — A Palestinian woman was killed and a number of people were wounded by Israeli forces who opened fire on demonstrators in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp protesting a "massacre" of camp inhabitants by Israeli soldiers, Beirut radio alleged. The commander of the Israeli forces in the area denied the reports, claiming that a woman who died in the camp had been killed in "internal clashes," according to AFP. UN observers cited by Jerusalem radio denied that IDF soldiers were involved in the incident.

Relations With Iran — "Informed diplomatic sources" reported that preparations are under way for a resumption of relations between Lebanon and Iran, KUNA disclosed. The sources indicated that the Lebanese Foreign Ministry recalled the head of the mission representing Lebanese interests in Iran for consultations on the future of relations.

Israeli Withdrawal — Israel will not withdraw from southern Lebanon in the "near future," according to Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon Uri Lubrani as reported by Jerusalem radio. Lubrani remarked that Israel would continue to abide by the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

PLO Affairs

A Fatah Central Committee delegation arrived in Moscow on a visit to the USSR, INA announced. The delegation is led by Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, the agency added.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 098 *18 May 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Issues Statement on Refugee Camp Massacre *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Algiers Meeting Communique Denounces Morocco *[APS]* ..... A 1
Meeting Resumed, Enlarged *[APS]* ..... A 1
Jordan PLO Representative Criticizes Morocco Meeting *[AD-DUSTUR 18 May]* ..... A 1
Fatah Delegation Arrives for Moscow Visit *[INA]* ..... A 2
Talks Held With Soviets *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 2
PLO Envoy Delivers 'Arafat's Message to Chernenko *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 2
Messaadia Talks With George Habash in Damascus *[APS]* ..... A 2
Arab League Secretary General on Tanker Attacks *[MENA]* ..... A 2
Memorandum on Gulf Received *[WAKH]* ..... A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

GULF MIRROR Comments on Gulf Attacks *[17-23 May]* ..... C 1
Independent States Now Involved ..... C 1
Source Quoted on 'Response' ..... C 1
Foreign Minister Interviewed on GCC States' Aims *[AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI]* ..... C 1
Returns From GCC Meeting ..... C 2
Briefs: Envoys Credentials Received ..... C 2

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Confirms Iranian Pilot Defected ..... C 3
Arab Insurance Fund Doubles Premiums on Tankers *[AL-ANBA]* ..... C 3
Papers Assess Gulf Tanker Attacks, U.S. 'Demands' *[AR-RAY AL-'AMM, AL-WATAN]* ..... C 3
Further Newspaper Commentary ..... C 3
Minister Returns From Riyadh GCC Meeting ..... C 4
To Attend Tunis Talks *[AL-WATAN, AL-QABAS]* ..... C 4
Information Ministry Warning to Papers on Security *[ARAB TIMES 15 May]* ..... C 4
Foreign Banks To Loan Turkey $150 Million *[Ankara]* ..... C 5
Arabic-English Information Service Planned *[ARAB TIMES 13 May]* ..... C 5

OMAN

Foreign Minister Departs for Riyadh ..... C 5
Interviewed by Radio Monte Carlo ..... C 5
Deputy Prime Minister on Relations With PDRY ..... C 6

QATAR

Foreign Minister Returns From Riyadh Meeting ..... C 6
Amir Receives GCC's 'Abdallah Bisharah ..... C 6
GCC Secretary General Leaves ..... C 7

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Bandar Meets Secretary Shultz in Washington ..... C 7

Briefs: Appointment by Royal Decree ..... C 7
Bank Loan to Morocco
Envoy to Tunisia
Decree on Ports Authority
Greek Delegation Received

UAE

Foreign Minister Returns From Meeting in Riyadh ..... C 7
Heir Apparent Meets With U.S. Ambassador ..... C 7
Papers Warn of Escalation of Gulf War *[AL-ITTIHAD, AL-WAHDAH]* ..... C 7
Briefs: Two Diplomats Received ..... C 8

EGYPT

'Ali Declares Gulf Situation Has Become 'Grave' ..... D 1
'Ali on Israeli Attack on Palestinian Camp ..... D 1
'Ali Emphasizes Arab Character of Jerusalem ..... D 1
Ghali Receives Australian Ambassador Murray ..... D 1
ANC Official Praises Country's Role in Africa ..... D 2
Kampuchea's Sihanouk To Visit Cairo 28 July ..... D 2
AL-AKHBAR Comments on 'Ayn al-Hulwah 'Massacre' ..... D 2

IRAQ

Planes Strike Two 'Naval Targets' 18 May ..... E 1
Japan Orders Oil Tankers, Ships To Leave Gulf ..... E 1
Armed Forces Communique No 1,468 - 17 May ..... E 1
Dailies on Khark Island Siege, War Escalation ..... E 1

JORDAN

Foreign Minister Leaves For Tunis 17 May ..... F 1
Sharaf on PLO, Reconciliation With Damascus *[MENA]* ..... F 1
AR-RA'Y on 'Double-Faced' U.S. Role in Gulf ..... F 1

LEBANON

Karami on Amendments to Draft Policy Statement ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil To Meet Sham'un, Karami on Statement *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Junblatt Takes Over Public Works Ministry ..... G 1
Head of Mission in Iran Recalled for Consultations *[KUNA]* ..... G 1
Clashes in Commercial Center, Sodeco Continue ..... G 2
Amal Kidnaps Soldiers on Road *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Army Positions Under Fire *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Reportage on Situation at Sidon Refugee Camp ..... G 2
AFP: Camp Extremely Tense ..... G 2
Israeli Commander on Events *[AFP]* ..... G 2
Heavy Gunfire Reported in Camp ..... G 3
Israel's Lubrani Visits Iqlim al-Kharrub 17 May *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Lubrani Holds News Conference *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Further on Lubrani's Remarks *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
VOAL Reports on Israeli Actions in South ..... G 4
Israelis Lift Siege on Southern Town ..... G 4
Israelis Arrest 16 in Kafr Shuba ..... G 4
Casualties Claimed in Attack on Israeli Patrol *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Other Anti-Israeli Operations Reported *[Ihdin Radio]* ..... G 4
Birri Remarks on 17 May Agreement Anniversary ..... G 4
Birri, Skaf Discuss Al-Biqa' Security Problems *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Hezbollah, Jundallah Independent of Amal Movement *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Car Bomb Blast Kills One in Al-Biqa' *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 5

VOL Says Socialists Organize Palestinian Entry ..... G 5

SYRIA

Khaddam Confers With Algeria's Messaadia ..... H 1
Messaadia Leaves Damascus ..... H 1
USSR's Aliyev Receives Minister al-Khatib ..... H 1
Talas Visits Eastern Area, Addresses Fighters ..... H 1
Additional Commentary on Moroccon Actions ..... H 2
'Muted' Arab Reaction Noted ..... H 2
Dailies Denounce Moroccan Regime ..... H 2
Ba'thists Rap Rabat Meeting ..... H 3
ATH-THAWRAH Views Gulf Situation, U.S. 'Threat' ..... H 3
Foreign Minister Criticizes 'Discredited' 'Arafat *[EL PAIS 14 May]* ..... H 4
As-Sa'iqah Spokesman on 'Ayn al-Hulwah Massacre ..... H 4
Iraqi Opposition Condemns Saddam Husayn ..... H 4
Briefs: Press Agreement With Bulgaria ..... H 5

ISRAEL

Egypt Bolsters Army Infrastructure East of Suez ..... I 1
'Anxiety' Over Egypt's Intentions Shared by U.S. ..... I 1
Government Concerned Over U.S.-Egyptian Plane Deal *[MA'ARIV 17 May]* ..... I 1
Government Drawing Up Security Agreement With U.S. ..... I 2
U.S. To Purchase Pilotless Aircraft ..... I 2
UN Observers Deny IDF Killed 'Ayn al-Hulwah Resident ..... I 2
IDF Soldier Wounded in Eastern Lebanon 17 May ..... I 2
Lubrani Calls New Beirut Government 'Anti-Israeli' ..... I 2
Further Comments ..... I 2
Meridor Spells Out Israeli Stand on Gulf War ..... I 2
Sharon Responds to Criticism of Remarks on Iran ..... I 3
Alignment Demands Explanation of Sharon Remarks ..... I 3
Weizman States Conditions for 'Arafat Meeting ..... I 3
TZOMET Decision To Run With Tehiya Stands ..... I 3
SHELI Secretariat To Run With CRM ..... I 3
MK Hurvitz To Run for Knesset on Independent List ..... I 3
PORI Poll Examines Election's Personal Impact *[HA'ARETZ 17 May]* ..... I 4
WHO Open Vote Condemns Israeli Occupation *[MA'ARIV 17 May]* ..... I 4
Red Cross Urged To Visit Syrian-Held Captives ..... I 4
Cost of Living Increment Agreement Signed ..... I 4
Yazbik Opens Lebanese Christian Representation ..... I 5
Yazbik on Historical Links ..... I 5
Foreign Ministry on Lebanese Representation Status ..... I 5
Lebanese Forces' Afram on Relations With Israel *[HA'ARETZ 17 May]* ..... I 5
Settlers Say Underground Saved Human Lives ..... I 5

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Gabon Maintains Owatseque Candidacy for OAU Post *[AFP]* ..... P 1
Ghana To Be Site of W. Africa News Resource Center *[Accra]* ..... P 1
Africa Hopes To Participate 'Massively' In Olympics *[Yaounde]* ..... P 1

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Envoy in Rome Warns of Reprisals Against UK, Sudan *[ANSA]* ..... Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Letter From Fahd on Tanker ..... Q 1
Nigerian External Minister Gambari Arrives 16 May ..... Q 1
Meets With At-Turayki ..... Q 1
Meets Al-Qadhdhafi ..... Q 2

Turkish Minister Ozdaglar Begins Meetings *[Ankara]* ..... Q 2
Meets Jallud ..... Q 2
Zambian Official Relays Message Through Jallud ..... Q 2
Greek-Libyan Cooperation Agreement Signed ..... Q 2
LE MONDE Predicts 'Stormy Period' in Libya *[17 May]* ..... Q 3
People's Congresses Hold More Emergency Meetings ..... Q 4
Muslim Brotherhood 'Stray Dog' Shot to Death ..... Q 4
Foreign Students on Muslim Brotherhood, Numayri ..... Q 4
JANA Rages Against Al-Maqaryif, Numayri, Reagan ..... Q 4
Anti-Libyan Terrorist Squads Being Trained in Jordan ..... Q 5
Egypt 'Inhuman Measure' at Border Separates Families ..... Q 5

MOROCCO

U.S. Delegation Arrives in Rabat for Talks ..... Q 6
Armitage Arrives ..... Q 6
Weinberger Arrives, Stresses Ties ..... Q 6
Military Committee Meets ..... Q 6
Radi, USSR's Osadchuk Chair Cooperation Meeting ..... Q 6
Minutes Signed ..... Q 7
Saharan Tribe Thanks King Hassan for Defense Wall ..... Q 7
Portuguese Socialists Stress Anti-SDAR Stance ..... Q 7
ANWAL: Jewish Conference 'Gate for Zionist Ideas' ..... Q 7
Korean Party Official Departs 17 May ..... Q 8
Trade Minister Returns From Trip To UK, Italy ..... Q 8

SUDAN

Further on Return of 40 Outlaws Under Amnesty ..... Q 8

TUNISIA

Measures Taken To Counter Libyan 'Provocations' *[AFP]* ..... Q 9
Destourian Party Discussion ..... Q 9
Algeria-Tunisia Cooperation Committee Meets 16 May ..... Q 9
Senegalese President Diouf Departs 17 May ..... Q 9
Juveniles Jailed for Part in January Food Riots *[AFP]* ..... Q 10

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Hits Morocco on Rabat 'Zionist' Congress ..... Q 10

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Biya Addresses Nation on Trials, Future ..... S 1
Officials Replaced in Wake of Coup Bid ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

Cuban Party Delegation Arrives for Visit ..... T 1

GAMBIA

President Orders Release of Six Dissidents ..... T 1

GHANA

Central Bank Still Holds Old Naira Notes *[THE GHANAIAN TIMES 12 May]* ..... T 1
Two Charged With Divulging Classified Information ..... T 1

GUINEA

CMRN Concerned About Ravages of Drought ..... T 2

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Reportedly Met Cuban Minister ..... T 2

NIGERIA

United Kingdom Urged To Halt Botha Visit ..... T 2
National Group Condemns Visit ..... T 2
Vessel, Crew Detained for Illegal Bunkering ..... T 2
Jimeta Disturbances Tribunal Sworn In ..... T 3
Bauchi Students Say School Conditions Unrealistic ..... T 3
Gulf War, Conflicts Caused by Arab Disarray ..... T 3

UPPER VOLTA

Third Republic Officials Trial To Resume 19 May ..... T 4
Trade Links Discussed With Gabon ..... T 4
Communications Development Pact Signed With Canada ..... T 4
Foreign Policy, Cooperation Achievements Hailed ..... T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Swapo's Nujoma in Luanda ..... U 1
Imperialistic Support for 'Bandits' Scored ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

Masire Speaks to BDF Commissioning Ceremony ..... U 1
Mmusi Cites Support of Democracy, Refugees *[BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS 9 May]* ..... U 2

MALAWI

President Comments on Regional Negotiations ..... U 2
Somalia's Vice President Arrives On Visit ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Attack on Swazi Train at Goba Reported *[Mbabane]* ..... U 3
ANC Suspected *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
Maputo Denies ANC Involvement *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 3
Machel Sends Message to Malawi's Banda ..... U 3
Veloso Returns from RSA, Comments on Talks ..... U 3
RSA Businessmen Meet With Veloso, Leave ..... U 4
Two Armed Bandit Camps Destroyed in Sofala ..... U 4
Rebelo Says Grass Roots Campaign Begins Well ..... U 4
Briefs: FRG Aid to Mozambique ..... U 4

NAMIBIA

Party Leader Calls for Banning SWAPO *[SAPA]* ..... U 4
SWAPO Founder Views Conditions for Talks With RSA ..... U 5

SOUTH AFRICA

Delegations Discuss Nkomati Accord in Cape Town *[Maputo]* ..... U 5
Justice Minister Halts Debate on SWAPO Prisoners ..... U 6
Malan Warns of Illusions About Threat to RSA ..... U 6
Malan Views Need for Regional Defense System ..... U 6
Explosion Causes Slight Damage to Railroad ..... U 7
Service Back to Normal ..... U 7
Servicemen To Get 12 Percent Pay Hike ..... U 7
NAN Correspondent Recounts Visit to Matabeleland *[NAN]* ..... U 7
BEELD Asks Boshoff To Resign from Voortrekkers *[10 May]* ..... U 8

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Hails PRC Relations at Arts Performance ..... U 9
Swazi 'Treachery' to ANC, Africa Condemned *[SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA 6 May]* ..... U 9

ZIMBABWE

President Receives Message From Iran's Khamene'i *[IRNA]* ..... U 9

PLO Issues Statement on Refugee Camp Massacre

JN171743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee issued the following statement on the 'Ayn al-Hulwah massacre: The PLO Executive Committee has investigated the new crime and massacre perpetrated by the Israeli forces and the forces of agent Antoine Lahad in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, near the city of Sidon in southern Lebanon yesterday, 16 May. Scores of innocent martyrs fell, many were wounded, and several houses, which had been rebuilt following the destruction of the camp during the Zionist invasion of Lebanon in 1982, were blown up. The PLO Executive Committee now holds the Israeli Government and Army responsible for this new massacre, in addition to the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, An-Nabatiyah, Tyre, Al-Burj ash-Shamali, Al-Miyah wa Miyah, and Ad-Damur in Lebanon.

The PLO appeals to the world's free and honorable people to confront this organized, fascist, official Zionist terrorism perpetrated by these Zionist gangs against our peaceful Palestinian people, against our children, women, and camps, and against the Lebanese people and their villages and cities. Urgent deterrent steps must be adopted to confront these continuing crimes and massacres against our people and masses. Moreover, the Executive Committee calls for the immediate convocation of the Security Council to discuss this new crime and adopt necessary measures to prevent a repetition of this crime, punish its perpetrators, and secure necessary guarantees to protect these camps and their inhabitants against these premeditated crimes and the continuing organized terrorism. At the same time, the PLO Executive Committee urges our Arab nation's masses to meet their responsibilities at this fateful and crucial time and in the face of this threat and these massacres against our Palestinian people and the dignity of our Arab nation. The Zionist enemy and the government of terrorists in Tel Aviv should realize that these crimes will not pass unpunished.

Algiers Meeting Communique Denounces Morocco

LD171118 Algiers APS in English 1018 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Algiers, 17/05/84 (APS) — Following the holding in Rabat (Morocco) of the Zionist congress, the inter-Palestinian meeting which is taking place at the present time in Algiers between representatives of the Fatah movement, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the Palestinian Communist Party, released yesterday a communique denouncing the approbation of the Moroccan official authorities and their accord to host the Zionist delegation which notably gathers several members of the Knesset and two former "ministers" to take part in a so-called "Council of the Israelite Communities of Morocco."

In this context, the communique particularly mentioned that "representatives of the Palestinian branches consider that this Moroccan measure constitutes a distressing coup to the Palestinian people which heroically fight against the racist Zionist occupation encouraged and backed up by the economic-military support of the U.S. imperialism.

"This Moroccan initiative, the communique added, is in a total contradiction with the Arab commitment concerning the Arabity of Palestine and constitutes a blatant deviation of decisions of different Arab summits as to Palestine.

"This initiative, the communique finally pointed out, opens also a breach in the Arab position hostile to Camp David accords and condemns As-Sadatian enterprise to recognize the racist and Zionist entity so as to normalize the relations at the detriment of the Palestinian people." The Palestinian representatives who participate to the inter-Palestinian meeting, the communique added, denounce this dangerous evolution of the Moroccan policy, an evolution which ranks with the U.S. plans aiming at undermining the Arab will in the struggle, at imposing the Zionist presence in the region, and at liquidating the Palestinian cause.

At the time when the Lebanese people succeed in abrogating the 17 May accord and when the Egyptian people are leading a struggle against the "normalization" and are exerting (?strong) pressure to put an end to diplomatic relations and annul Camp David accords, we can but express our astonishment before such an initiative while Morocco presides [over the] Al-Quds Committee and we exhort the Arab nation — peoples and states — to hamper the Zionist infiltration within the very Arab ranks. For this reason, we request from the conference of the Arab foreign affairs ministers, which will meet next Saturday, the necessary measures so as to stop this dangerous deterioration which aims at doing harm to the Arab question.

Meeting Resumed, Enlarged

LD171332 Algiers APS in English 1023 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Algiers, 17/05/84 (APS) — The inter-Palestinian meeting resumed its works yesterday behind closed doors in Club des Pins (Algiers). The meeting was enlarged to bring in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) including Mr Abu 'Abbas, deputy secretary general, and Abu 'Ali. It is recalled that the participating delegations are that of the DFLP, PFLP, and the PCP. On another side, Mr M'hamed Yazid, CC member of the CC Permanent Secretariat in charge of the Council of Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples, offered a luncheon in honour of the Palestinian delegations and the delegation of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Jordan PLO Representative Criticizes Morocco Meeting

JN180948 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 May 84 pp 1, 19

[Nabil 'Amir dispatch]

[Excerpt] Brigadier 'Abd ar-Razzak al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee representative in Jordan, has said that the Jewish conference that was held in Rabat is considered an action aimed at aborting the Fes summit conference and the resolutions it adopted on Arab Moroccan territory. In an exclusive statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Al-Yahya said that convening the Jewish conference in Morocco is considered a stab at the resolutions adopted by the Jerusalem Committee, which is chaired by King

Hassan II, and an insult to the holy city, which is considered a symbol of the Palestinian cause — a symbol whose Arab and Islamic character the Arabs and Muslims are struggling to emphasize and to defend, and a symbol which they are strugging to liberate as the basis of Arab rights to Palestine.

Brig al-Yahya added that the convocation of the Jewish conference in Morocco and the participation of a number of Zionist diehards in this conference, while Zionist terrorism is escalating against our kinfolk in the occupied territories, seem to be a declaration of our acceptance of Israel in its current terrorist form. Brig al-Yahya said: The Zionists' current desperate efforts to hold this conference and exploit it in an ugly way are aimed at helping the Zionist racial entity save Israel's reputation, which has been rubbed in the mud. This made the leaders of Zionist terrorism pretend to discover and pursue the terrorist cells, but these procedures will not change any of the facts.

Fatah Delegation Arrives for Moscow Visit

JN171054 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Moscow, 17 May (INA) — A Fatah movement delegation arrived here today on a visit of several days to the USSR. The delegation is headed by Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, and comprises Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, and Khalid al-Hasan, members of the Fatah movement's Central Committee. The delegation will hold talks with USSR officials on the latest developments of the Palestinian cause, the current situation in the Arab arena, and ways to bolster USSR-Palestinian relations.

Talks Held With Soviets

JN171802 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The Fatah movement delegation headed by Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, is continuing its official visit to the USSR. The delegation today held a series of meetings with Soviet leaders dealing with the latest developments in Palestinian issues, the situation in the Arab arena, and and ways to bolster and develop bilateral relations in the joint struggle against U.S. imperialism and Zionism. Brother Abu Iyad and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Moscow yesterday evening. The Fatah delegation, which includes Brothers Abu as-Sa'id [Khalid al-Hasan] and Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], members of the Fatah Central Committee, and Brother 'Abbas Zaki, member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, will prepare for the forthcoming visit to the USSR of Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] within the framework of bolstering the struggle relations between the USSR and the PLO.

PLO Envoy Delivers 'Arafat's Message to Chernenko

JN171830 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Brother Sakhr Habash, alias Abu Nizar, delivered a message from Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, dealing with the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the Arab region. Brother Sakhr Habash delivered Brother leader Abu 'Ammar's message after presenting his credentials as the PLO's extraordinary representative to the USSR to Comrade Georgiy Korniyenko, member of the CPSU and first deputy of the Soviet foreign minister, at the USSR Foreign Ministry. Comrade Korniyenko warmly welcomed Brother Abu Nizar, expressing the USSR's great admiration for the Palestinian people's struggle led by the PLO, their sole, legitimate representative.

Brother Sakhr Habash expressed the appreciation of the Palestinian and Arab peoples for the firm and principled policy of the friendly USSR on their national issues and the Middle East conflict, and for its continued support for the Arab liberation movement and the PLO against imperialist and Zionist designs aimed at hampering a just and permanent peace in the Middle East and thwarting Arab and international efforts in this regard in an attempt to dominate the region. Brother Abu Nizar reaffirmed the Palestinian people's determination to continue the struggle under the PLO until the Palestinian people achieve their aspirations for self-determination and the return and establishment of an independent Palestinian state in their homeland. He affirmed the importance of the USSR's great role in supporting our Palestinian people's struggle and the importance of bolstering Arab-Soviet friendship.

Messaadia Talks With George Habash in Damascus

LD171111 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Damascus, 17/05/84 (APS) — Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politburo member head of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, arrived here in the Syrian capital to confer with Palestinian leaders. In this framework Mr Messaadia met with George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for Palestine Liberation.

Arab League Secretary General on Tanker Attacks

NC171555 Cairo MENA in English 1522 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tunis, May 17 (MENA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi cautioned against the gravity of the repeated air attacks on Arab and foreign oil tankers in the Gulf area, especially as they take place in the vicinity of some Arab ports which are not partners in the Iran-Iraq war. In statements made today on the recent attacks on the Saudi ship *Yanbu Pride*, Klibi affirmed that the Arab countries firmly denounced these acts which help escalate the tension and jeopardize the security of the entire area.

The Arab countries call upon Iran to resort to reason and abide by the principles of brotherhood and neighbourhood, the secretary said. He added that the Arab League had shown readiness many times to contribute to bringing about a political settlement based on respect for all the legitimate rights of both Iran and Iraq. It calls upon the international community to exert further efforts for ending this war, Klibi said.

Memorandum on Gulf Received

GF171850 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tunis, 17 May (WAKH) — Arab League well-informed sources told a WAKH correspondent in Tunis today that the Arab League General Secretariat received a memorandum seeking the inclusion of the issue of aggression on the Arab oil tankers in the Gulf on the agenda of the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers which will be held in Tunis next Saturday. These sources pointed out that this memorandum was issued by the UAE and that the General Secretariat distributed copies of it to member countries.

BAHRAIN

GULF MIRROR Comments on Gulf Attacks

Independent States Now Involved

GF171112 Manama GULF MIRROR in English 17-23 May 84 p 2

["Mirror Comment" column]

[Text] The Gulf official who indicated yesterday that the independent states of the region can no longer claim to be uninvolved in the Iran-Iraq war was stressing the bitter truth which came home this week.

Iran, by its continuing attacks on shipping this week, has signalled that it has no intention of letting Iraqi attacks around Khark Island go unanswered.

Earlier in the week, when it was not as categorically sure that Iran had attacked the latest three tankers, it was thought the move might be to confuse the issue by blaming Iraq and unsettling the conservative states.

After yesterday however, it is clear that Iran is bent on carrying out its threat to make the Gulf a no-go area for oil tankers if the Iraqi air offesnive continues.

This has shattered the uneasy calm which has existed for a year or more since the oil slick, the threats to close the Strait of Hormuz and the appearance of Exocet missiles.

Only Saudi Arabia and Oman have the ability to export large quantities of oil from the region without using the seaway.

In the absence of any obvious chance for a negotiated solution and the extremely doubtful prospect of Iraq disavowing its intentions to hit at Iran's oil terminals, the danger to shipping will only mount.

What will ultimately be weighted in the balance is whether the Gulf Cooperation Council states wish to invoke American aid in curtailing the Iranian aerial activity or whether they themselves want to take on the role and, effectively, go to war.

The initial tone of today's summit in Riyadh will give some indication of the mood of the council but it is very unlikely indeed that the GCC will show its hand today, or even play a card. Waiting may be difficult to bear, but at present it might be preferable to either of the alternatives.

Source Quoted on 'Response'

GF171111 Manama GULF MIRROR in English 17-23 May 84 p 1

[By Graham Cole]

[Excerpt] Emergency talks on the Gulf Cooperation Council's reaction to an Iranian rocket attack on a Saudi supertanker within its territorial waters are to start today in Riyadh, official sources said last night.

The six-nation council's foreign ministers will discuss the options left open to them following the air raid and a strategic military response is certain to be raised, the sources added.

With speculation running riot on the increasing threat to shipping, officials stressed the limitations of defensive options.

A possible aerial cordon around vital shipping convoys was described as "very difficult".

The ability of a single low-flying strike jet to breach the sophisticated detection system was also cited as a consideration in the discussions on a GCC response. The problem of determining the motives of a single plane breaking into GCC airspace is insurmountable unless the area is put on a war footing.

Although no details could be given of the probable change in the status of the Gulf's Armed Forces, government source in the Gulf said: "It is obvious that all Gulf countries are now alerted to the possibility of attacks on viable targets inside territorial waters."

This would include important land installations, like refineries or major industrial plant, the source agreed.

The source continued: "We can no longer sit on the sidelines and pretend we are not involved in the conflict.

Now we clearly are involved and there has to be a response."

Foreign Minister Interviewed on GCC States' Aims

GF111640 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] Paris, 11 May (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah affirmed the anxiousness of the GCC states to keep the region out of international conflicts, and thus "ward off ambitions whatever their source."

In a statement to the Paris magazine *AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI* — which will be published tomorrow, Saturday — Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak said that a common view exists among the GCC states with the aim of establishing a strategic defense situation in this region to enable it to protect itself and establish an intrinsic power to defend what has been accomplished thus far, pointing out that the measures adopted in this regard, whether at the military or political cooperation levels, bear good results.

He indicated that the GCC is considered the most important accomplishment achieved in this region. It is now in good shape, proceeding forward slowly but becoming increasingly stronger and adopting basic decisions founded on fixed principles in accordance with the needs of the region and its situation. He stressed that this council is not a regional structure but an Arab structure that serves the interests of the Arabs as a whole.

Asked about the existence of disagreements in viewpoint among the GCC states, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak said: "This is a natural thing and we should not give it greater importance than what it actually is. There are many viewpoints within the GCC, and they interact to eventually reach a solution that will push the work forward. We are still at the beginning;we don't call what is among us disagreements but individual judgments [ijtihad]; and this is not wrong."

He added that all the foundations laid down within the GCC framework were agreed upon by the leaders, but it is natural that individual judgments exist. He stressed that this council is developing, growing, and linking the member-states and their peoples through economic, political, and social ties that can no way be broken.

In his statement, the Bahraini foreign minister stressed that defending the security of the Strait of Hormuz is the responsibility of the region's states alone. He said: "As Gulf states, we work for translating this principle into tangible action, an existing reality, not only a slogan."

Concerning the row created by his statement regarding the U.S. intervention to keep the Strait of Hormuz open, the Bahraini foreign minister said that this statement which he made to a U.S. magazine was published without explanation, and this caused the row. The explanation is that Bahrain supports keeping the Strait open because it is a vital, major waterway for all the region's states, and because Security Council Resolution No 540 states that waterways must remain open under the umbrella of international legitimacy.The five superpowers which endorsed this resolution gave it a status that neither Iran nor anyone else can ignore.

He added that the Strait does not concern Bahrain and the Gulf states alone but it concerns the entire world, "and we did not mean the United States alone by our statements; we mean this state as well as the other superpowers are concerned with the Strait of Hormuz."

Asked about the possibility of reinstating parliamentary life in Bahrain after Kuwait has reinstated its democratic experiment, he said: "Kuwait's experiment concerns Kuwait which takes care of its internal affairs, and Bahrain has its own experiment and its internal affairs too. We work for the development of our country administratively, politically, and internally. As for the parliamentary issue, it continues to be studied and the study will be implemented at the appropriate time."

The Bahraini minister denied the rumors that the Bahrain-Saudi Arabia causeway will have a negative impact on Bahrain. He said: "The causeway is an historic and important structure that should not be subjected to narrow-minded interpretations. It is a geographic and engineering structure that will link Bahrain, for the first time, with the Arabian Peninsula and even with the entire Arab and outside worlds. It has enormous advantages with regard to the Arab strategy, and it will contribute to achieving economic integrity among the GCC states."

He stressed that the economic situation in Bahrain is developing well and that the impact of the economic crisis faced by the countries of the world has not affected the Bahraini economy much since Bahrain, which has limited resources, viewed the world's financial situation and acted in order to organize its economic situation in a manner that corresponds to the international economic situation.

In his statements to *AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI* magazine, the Bahraini foreign minister expected that the year 1984 will witness the solving of the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said: "There is great hope for resorting to negotiations to resolve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute peacefully. Many factors may result in a solution in view of the continuing international effort to find a formula for enforcing peace in the Gulf."

The Bahraini minister affirmed the readiness of the GCC states to continue efforts aimed at finding a just and comprehensive solution to this crisis. He said: "Peace serves all of our efforts, while continuing the war exhausts Arab and Islamic resources; no one other than the enemy will benefit from this. We are prepared to play our role; we have not ceased being concerned about this war. We have been continually reminding the world so that it will not become a forgotten war. It must always be thought of and given the importance it deserves." He called on the Arabs to eliminate their differences, which stand as obstacles to achieving the goals and hopes of the Arab nation, and to restore Arab solidarity in order to confront the Zionist onslaught and foreign ambitions that challenge our civilization. The Bahraini minister expressed hope that the security situation in Lebanon will be stabilized and the Lebanese agony, which has continued for 9 years, will be stopped. He called on the Lebanese political leadership to bear their historic responsibilities, find a solution to this crisis, and work for Lebanon and the future.

He affirmed that Egypt's return to the Arab ranks is necessary and strategic but should take place within the framework of Arab solidarity so as not to create a new break. He indicated this topic will be discussed in upcoming Arab meetings onsteps to Egypt's return. However, he said: "Egypt should, for its side, play a role to ease its return."

Returns From GCC Meeting

GF171746 Manama Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah returned home tonight from Riyadh after taking part in the emergency meeting of the GCC Ministerial Council convened at the GCC General Secretariat which concluded its meetings today. Upon arrival he was received by senior officials at the Foreign Affairs ministry.

Briefs

Envoys Credentials Received — Manama, 14 May (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah today received the credentials of Emanuel Stamatiou, Kaya Toperi, and Dr Wolfgang Steininger as, respectively, Greek, Turkish, and Austrian ambassadors to Bahrain. [Summary] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 14 May 84 GF]

New Swedish Ambassador — Manama, 12 May (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah today received the credentials of the new Swedish ambassador to Bahrain Carl-Gustav Akesson. [Excerpt] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1029 GMT 12 May 84 GF]

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Confirms Iranian Pilot Defected

NC181412 Paris AFP in English 1343 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, May 18 (AFP) — The Kuwaiti foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, today confirmed that an Iranian pilot who refused to attack a Kuwaiti tanker in the Gulf last Monday sought political asylum in Saudi Arabia soon afterwards.

According to unconfirmed reports, the pilot may have landed at the Saudi east coast air base of Dhahran, about 60 kms (40 miles) from where the tanker *Bahrah* was attacked. He had broke off formation with another Iranian plane.

Shaykh Sabah was speaking shortly before leaving for an emergency Arab League meeting in Tunis tomorrow.

The Gulf Cooperation Council Secretary General, 'Abdallah Bisharah, was expected to fly to New York on Sunday for talks with ambassadors to the United States from Gulf Council countries, he added.

The six Gulf Council members — Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — on Thursday condemned "Iranian aggression" in the Gulf.

Arab Insurance Fund Doubles Premiums on Tankers

LD171213 Kuwait KUNA in English 1022 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, May 17 (KUNA) — Insurance on war risks against vessels and tankers in the Arabian Gulf have doubled as result of the recent attacks against Kuwaiti and Saudi oil tankers, according to press reports here Thursday.

Quoting local insurance sources, *AL-ANBA* newspaper stated that an urgent message by the Baghdad-based Arab Fund for Insurance Against War Risks had instructed increase of insurance premium on vessels hull from 0.35 to 0.7 percent. The message, they added, also cut down period of call by vessels in Gulf ports to a mere 48 hours instead of the previous period of 14 days in view of the new circumstances in the region. Meanwhile, the paper reported that the Kuwaiti tankers, hit last Sunday and Monday, *Umm Casbah* and *Bahrah* are insured with Kuwaiti insurance companies and re-insured by the Arab Fund for Insurance Against War Risks in Baghdad, in whose capital all Arab Gulf states subscribe.

AL-ANBA quoted local underwriters as saying that *Umm Casbah* is insured for 30 million dollars while *Bahrah* stands for 15 millions and indicated that an experts team arrived here from Dubai Wednesday to assess the damage caused the *Bahrah* tanker and report on the compensation payable to the owner-company, Kuwait oil tankers company.

Papers Assess Gulf Tanker Attacks, U.S. 'Demands'

LD181227 Kuwait KUNA in English 1109 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, May 18 (KUNA) — A local paper Friday linked between recent Iranian air attacks against Arab tankers in the Gulf and rejection of Arab Gulf states to offer the U.S. military bases or facilities in the region and warned that the escalation was part of an American determined plan to establish a military presence in the oil-rich and strategic Gulf. [as received]

The independent daily, *AR-RAY AL-'AMM* recalled the recent Gulf tour by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy who came shopping for bases and facilities in return for an American air cover to protect Gulf oil shipments to the West and indicated that by raising the spectre of Iranian threats to close the Straits and block navigation in the Gulf, the U.S. Administration intends to work its way into the region.

"It is impossible", the paper wrote in its editorial. "to separate between Iranian attacks against neutral Arab tankers and the Gulf refusal to offer military bases and facilities to the U.S. As for interests, a common factor is visible between Iran's actions and the demands and conditions made by the American Administration", it stated.

On the same subject, *AL-WATAN* newspaper reminded of Kuwait's neutral stand from the Iraq-Iran war and policy of self-restraint throughout the years of bitter fighting, advocating all the time the need for a negotiated settlement to this futile dispute.

The paper said that the Arab Gulf states have decided on continuing the flow of oil in order to deprive others of any pretext for intervention and thus keep the conflict limited, while maintaining efforts of mediation for an end of the war.

Pointing out to the series of reactions caused by the attacks against Kuwaiti and Saudi tankers, the daily asked if Tehran is interested in plunging the Gulf peoples into the quagmire of foreign intervention and appealed for reason and dialogue to settle the region's problems.

Further Newspaper Commentary

LD171227 Kuwait KUNA in English 1014 GMT May 84

[KUNA ellipses throughout]

[Text] Kuwait, May 17 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti dailies Thursday asserted that the recent Iranian attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers was an open invitation for the big powers to militarily intervene in the region, an opportunity the superpowers look forward to.

Daily *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* said that "Iran intends to extend the fires (of war) to all the Gulf...on the justification that Iraq attacks tankers loaded with Iranian oil, while they (Iranians) ban Iraq from loading its oil on the Gulf."

"If Iraq defends itself against the offender and occupier of its land and bans it from exporting its oil from the Gulf and through international waters, then why is Iran attacking Kuwait and Saudi Arabia?", the daily wondered.

The paper asserted that Tehran's new aggressions against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia "are moves on a new stage of its war against Iraq, turning its conflict into a war against the whole region, something Iran desired from the beginning."

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM noted that due to the recent Iranian attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi oil tankers "military American-Western intervention is on the verge of implementation, and this is what the United States has been waiting for."

Meanwhile, daily *AL-QABAS* wondered for how long is this Iranian hostility against "our tankers in the Gulf to continue."

"In whose interest .... is an attack against a tanker which flies a flag of a peaceful country uninvolved in the war," the daily asked.

AL-QABAS commented on the possibility of a big power intervention in the region by saying the Arab Gulf countries object to protection by the big powers. They adhere to the principle of Gulf protection "being the responsibility of its people."

"Foreign fleets, which anchor near us, are waiting for the right time (to interfere)... and the rulers of Tehran are paving the way for a foreign, namely American, intervention in the Gulf," the paper said.

On the other hand, the daily called on the Arab Gulf Foreign Ministers, who are to hold their meeting Thursday in Riyadh, who will discuss the recent attacks on the tankers, to exert efforts to prove to the world that "the blind aggression will not make us lose our rationale and calm."

Daily *AS-SIYASAH* indicated that "Iran has turned to attacking civilian oil tankers, apparently wanting to involve the big powers in the war."

"When Iran attacks civilian ships, this means that it is attacking vital international interests," the paper asserted.

However, "Iran's failure to achieve its objectives in its war with Iraq does not justify its leap in the dark which may make things very difficult for Iran and its people," the paper warned.

Kuwaiti English-language *KUWAIT TIMES* newspaper said that "although it has denied carrying out the air strikes on Kuwaiti tankers, one cannot forget the threats of Tehran's leaders about blocking the oil lanes."

The paper highlighted that one of the reasons for the Iranian attacks on the Gulf tankers is Iran's failure "to score any decisive victory over Iraq, therefore the Iranian leaders have chosen to involve GGC states such as Kuwait in the conflict."

"Tehran is in no mood to end the war on a give and take basis. This has led to the gradual isolation of this Muslim nation... there are hardly any forums left in the world to initiate further mediation. This makes for a really desperate situation for Iran as well as the world," the daily stressed.

Minister Returns From Riyadh GCC Meeting

LD171718 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign arrairs and minister of information, returned home from Riyadh this evening after attending an emergency meeting of the GCC foreign ministers which discussed the Iranian aggressions on Arab oil tankers in the Gulf.

To Attend Tunis Talks

LD180851 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 18 May 84

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 18 may (KUNA) — Ash-Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and information minister will leave for Tunis at noon today to attend an adjourned Arab foreign ministers meeting [as received] at which the states of the Arabian Gulf will raise the issue of Iranian attacks on oil tankers outside the Gulf military operation zone.

AL-WATAN today quoted Ash-Shaykh Sabah as saying that in Tunis he will request the Arab states to face up to their responsibilities and will ask them to enforce the Arab League Charter and the joint defense agreement.

AL-QABAS in a report which it did not attribute to any source, said that the six Gulf foreign ministers adopted in Riyadh "resolutions which were not made public" and that their nature were not revealed.

Information Ministry Warning to Papers on Security

GF161152 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 15 May 84 p 6

[Text] The *ARAB TIMES* and other newspapers in Kuwait have been warned against published news which touches on the country's security, and against sensationalising incidents.

In a circular to all newspapers, the Information Ministry's assistant undersecretary for culture, press and censorship affair, Hamad Ar-Rumi, said that the problem had been brought to light by the undersecretary of the Interior Ministry.

He said that while he understood that newspapers were in competition with each other, this should not be at the expense of national security, particularly at a time when cooperation and solidarity was vital.

Ar-Rumi split the problem into three main categories, news which affected the country's security interests, sensationalist

reports based on rumours which disturbed Kuwait's stability and security, and news which defamed the Kuwait society.

In the first category he cited examples as: the publication of details of security precautions for the GCC summit which Kuwait is to host later this year; reports on decisions made by the Interior Ministry and other authorities connected with the protection of public installations; and publicity on security procedures to protect the airport, ports and border checkpoints.

On the exaggeration of reports, Ar-Rumi said these included reporting normal quarrels between schoolchildren as bloody incidents; the publication of old murder cases under sensational headlines; dealing with normal incidents as dangerous and criminal activities; repeating crime news from different sources as if it was new; and publishing details of crimes which could hinder police investigations.

Referring to reports which defamed the reputation of the Kuwaiti society, Ar-Rumi said these included the continued publication of reports on the immoral behaviour of small groups which implied that such behaviour was a widespread problem in Kuwait's Islamic society; and adopting subjective stands which spread hatred between men and women in Kuwait.

Ar-Rumi called on newspapers to be realistic in the news items they published to safeguard the country's interests.

Foreign Banks To Loan Turkey $150 Million

TA161709 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] An agreement to extend a $150 million loan to Turkey by foreign banks has been signed in Kuwait. The agreement was signed by Tevfik Altinok, Turkish treasury and foreign trade deputy undersecretary. According to the agreement, the loan will be used to finance the Turkish Petroleum Refineries Corporation.

Meanwhile, a loan of some $16 million was extended by the Kuwait Fund to Turkey to be used in the foreign financing of the Turkish highways project.

Prior to visiting Kuwait, Altinok and his delegation held talks in Saudi Arabia during which a $200 million loan was finalized. The loan had been agreed to during President Kenan Evren's trip to Saudi Arabia.

Arabic-English Information Service Planned

GF141103 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 13 May 84 p 5

[Text] Kuwait is to be the Middle East pioneer of a televised information service, and the first in the world to offer the service in both Arabic and English.

The Vision Information System is due to go on line in July, and is similar to systems already operating in the U.S., France, Canada, Britain, Japan and Brazil.

The fully-computarised service can be used to relay messages and for a wide store of information on airport movements, weather reports, financial news, prayer timings, company reports, recipes and important addresses.

The system is undergoing final tests at Kuwait's Ministry of Communications, then 1,200 special TV sets will be distributed to banks, companies and households.

Fees for the service have not yet been decided.

The project is to be operated from the Salmiyah telephone exchange, and the project director, Hasan al-Ma'tuqi said that it would take only one hour for anyone to be trained to operate the system.

Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Ar-Rashid Visits Poland

For Polish and Kuwaiti media coverage of the official visit to Poland of Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid, deputy foreign affairs minister, see the Poland section of the 18 May Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Departs for Riyadh

GF171430 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, led the Sultanate's delegation to the emergency meeting of the GCC foreign ministers which began in Riyadh today. His Excellency left the country earlier for Riyadh leading the Sultanate's delegation. He was seen off at the airport by a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Interviewed by Radio Monte Carlo

JN120903 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1736 GMT 11 May 84

[Interview with Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Kamal Tarabay, Radio Monte Carlo reporter, carried within the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program in Paris on 11 May —recorded]

[Text] [Kamal Tarabay] Your Excellency, the foreign minister [as heard] of Oman, the question of the Gulf and security in the Gulf were the major topics you discussed with Minister Cheysson. Did you put forth any new concepts on the present and future of this region, and is there anything new in the French stand?

[Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah] We reviewed with Minister Cheysson the situation in the Gulf region. We compared notes and found that our viewpoints were identical on the efforts that have been and must continue to be exerted to seek new means to settle this issue. Minister Cheysson proposed some points which may be discussed in the future concerning security and stability in the Gulf. We will consider the points and discuss them in a serious

manner within the framework of the Gulf states. We hope that other new efforts by other parties will be exerted to seek means for secure peace in the region.

[Tarabay] Your Excellency, do you still believe that the Iranian threat to close the Strait of Hormuz is a serious threat; and if Iran implements this threat, how will Oman face it?

['Abdallah] I believe that we can say that the Strait of Hormuz faces no threat from anyone. We trust the Iranians when they say that Iran has an interest in not closing the Strait. Since the beginning of the war, we have not seen anything to indicate that the Iranians have any intention of closing the Strait or obstructing navigation in it. Thus, we consider this Iranian stand to be a positive one, and we welcome it.

[Tarabay] Is this Omani viewpoint shared by the other Gulf countries and the GCC countries?

['Abdallah] This is a fact and not only a viewpoint. As partners with Iran in the region of the Strait, we have not sensed any threat and we have no doubt about the seriousness of the Iranian stand in not exposing the Strait to any danger.

[Tarabay] Your Excellency, are there new initiatives on the level of the Gulf region to halt the Iraqi-Iranian war?

['Abdallah] I cannot say that there is new mediation. However, I can confidently say that the Gulf countries will always be ready to exert any possible effort to solve this problem, and spread peace and security in the region.

[Tarabay] Are you optimistic that the war will end soon?

['Abdallah] We hope that it will be possible to overcome all the obstacles which still obstruct the search for peaceful solutions to this problem. We also believe that the prolongation of the war does not serve the interests of either of the two parties.

[Tarabay] You are currently on a European tour. Before Paris, you were in London. Did you hold any specific talks in the British capital on the Gulf region?

['Abdallah] of course. I discussed the situation in the Gulf with Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs. We exchanged viewpoints and found that they were identical.

[Tarabay] Is there an Omani or Gulf proposal to make the European community participate in settling the Gulf crisis?

['Abdallah] The European group is very much interested in the situation in the Gulf. I obtained reassurances from the European community that it will not hesitate to exert any possible effort for the settlement of this problem. However, the European countries have no specific plan or proposals in this respect.

[Tarabay] In other words, have you asked that the Gulf crisis be discussed during the forthcoming European summit to convene in France soon?

['Abdallah] Personally, I have not put forth any such proposal, and, as far as I know, no Gulf official has done so. I do not believe it is appropriate to submit this problem at present. We believe that the efforts underway, whether within the framework of the Islamic countries or the Nonaligned Movement, can be intensified and exploited to reach a solution to this problem.

Deputy Prime Minister on Relations With PDRY

GF141832 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 May 84

[Excerpts] His Highness Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs, has lauded the political and economic achievement of the GCC over the past 3 years.

In a statement published in today's issue of the newspaper *'UMAN*, he said: The most important achievement of the GCC is the members' determination to improve cooperation to a level which realizes their common interests; they have provided the framework and have made it possible to begin the march to improve this cooperation.

In reply to a question on the exchange of diplomatic representation between Oman and the PDRY, his highness said dialogue is going on between the two countries on the overall relations, which are now dominated by a good spirit and mutual desire to preserve their natural course. It is necessary for this dialogue to take full advantage of the opportunities available, he said. He added that the exchange of diplomatic representation will come in time and it will enhance relations between the two countries and serve the interests of their fraternal peoples.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Returns From Riyadh Meeting

GF171938 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1905 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Doha, 17 May (WAKH) — Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the current session of the GCC ministerial council, returned today to Doha from Riyadh after chairing the emergency meeting of the GCC ministerial council, which was held at the headquarters of the GCC General Secretariat today. The ministerial council discussed the aggression to which the Saudi and Kuwaiti oil tankers were subjected recently and issued a statement on this issue denouncing Iran's aggression.

Amir Receives GCC's 'Abdallah Bisharah

GF151319 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 May 84

[Excerpt]The Qatari amir, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, received GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah at Ad-Doha palace this morning. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs; and Ibrahim as-Subhi, GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs. QNA has learned that a number of issues concerning the GCC, developments in

the region, and new events in the Arab and international arenas were generally reviewed. Bisharah briefed his highness the amir, who is the chairman of the current session of the GCC, on some questions related to the activities of the GCC and its future plans.

GCC Secretary General Leaves

GF151441 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1525 GMT 15 May 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 15 May (WAKH) — GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah left Doha this afternoon after a short visit, during which he met with His Highness the Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani.

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Bandar Meets Secretary Shultz in Washington

GF180520 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The Kingdom's ambassador to Washington, Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, met in Washington yesterday with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. They discussed the latest developments in the Gulf during the meeting. After the meeting, his highness made a statement to journalists saying that the latest attack on the Saudi oil tanker in the Gulf is a serious escalation.

Briefs

Appointment by Royal Decree — Riyadh 14 May (SPA) — A royal decree has been issued appointing His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad ibn Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz as assistant to his highness the deputy minister of interior in the excellent grade. [Excerpt] [Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1005 GMT 14 May 84 LD]

Bank Loan to Morocco — Jidda, May 14, SPA — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and Morocco signed here today a loan agreement worth 20 million U.S. dollars to finance the purchase of crude oil for Morocco from the Kingdom. [Excerpt] Riyadh SPA in English 1243 GMT 14 May 84 LD]

Envoy to Tunisia — Tunis, May 12, SPA — Saudi Ambassador to Tunisia 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Omran [spelling as received] met here today with Tunisian Culture Affairs Minister Bechir bin Slama on the occasion of his diplomatic assignment in the North African Arab country. During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1900 GMT 11 May 84 LD]

Decree on Ports Authority Riyadh, May 15, SPA A royal decree has been issued here, approving the agreement for the establishment of the Gulf Ports authority. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1236 GMT 15 May 84 LD]

Greek Delegation Received — Riyadh, May 15, SPA — Public Works and Housing Minister Prince Mui'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at his office here today a visiting Greek trade delegation led by the chairman of the Greek international marketing organization. They reviewed cooperation in various sectors and means of enhancing bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by the Saudi deputy minister of public works and housing. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1239 GMT 15 May 84 LD]

UAE

Foreign Minister Returns From Meeting in Riyadh

GF171936 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1925 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 17 May (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Abu Dhabi today from Riyadh after taking part in the emergency meeting of the GCC foreign ministers. The emergency meeting was held at the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh.

Heir Apparent Meets With U.S. Ambassador

GF151933 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 May 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 15 May (WAKH) — Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, UAE heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, received this evening George Quincey Lumsden, U.S. ambassador to the UAE. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations, issues of common interest, and developments in the situation in the Gulf.

Papers Warn of Escalation of Gulf War

GF171154 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0625 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 17 May (WAM) — Today two local papers commented on the development of events in the region and called for an end to this playing with fire. They warned of opening a door that will be difficult to close and called for speedy action and solidarity to stop the widening of the scope of the Gulf war, so that the security of the whole region will not be subjected to anxiety and danger. *AL-ITTIHAD* newspaper called for exercising wisdom and consideration for the brotherhood through Allah and for an end to playing with fire. It said that if the difficult door is opened, through it will only pass tornadoes which do not differentiate, discriminate, or benefit anyone except the aspirant enemies who are not only awaiting the moment of the debris, but also pushing for it. The paper expressed hope that its call will find receptive ears so that wisdom will be exercised and that the brothers will respond to this call. It stressed that this vacant hellish ring must be broken up, the bloodshed stopped, and the imposed swords on the necks of the innocent people lifted.

AL-WAHDAH newspaper warned that the continuation of oil tanker attacks in Gulf waters is considered a direct invitation to the superpowers to intervene in this war. It will push the United States, under the cover of protecting oil supplies, to impose

strategic treaties in the region which will repeal or overturn much of what has been established, God forbid. The paper appealed to all Arab Gulf countries for speedy action and collective solidarity according to a joint plan which will hinder the widening of the scope of the Gulf war, because every day of the delay in this initiative will subject the security of the whole region to further anxiety and danger. The paper stressed that Arab countries are urged to stand in one row with their Gulf brothers in order to hold a dialogue to decide on a joint general policy in order to avoid the problems and difficulties which they will be subjected to as a result of the escalation of this cursed war which has entered its fourth year. This escalation only benefits colonialist countries and Israel, which view it as a necessary distraction and a means of occupying all Arab countries.

Briefs

Two Diplomats Received — Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid received the Finnish consul to the UAE, (Dicala Lito), on the occasion of assuming his new post and replacing Harry (Lene). He also received 'Ajjaj Ahmad al-Hazza', Iraqi consul general in Dubai, at the conclusion of his assignment. [Summary][Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 15 May 84 GF]

'Ali Declares Gulf Situation Has Become 'Grave'

NC171448 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today declared that the situation in the Gulf has become grave. He said that on the one hand this deterioration will have a negative effect on any efforts for a settlement and on the other will lead to the internationalization of the conflict and to the intervention of the big powers in the area. This situation, he said, shows the need to settle the Iraqi-Iranian conflict as quickly as possible.

His excellency said: The international community and all of its regional and international organizations must deal with this situation. The Egyptian efforts, which have been exerted through the Nonaligned Movement, aim at adopting urgent steps to solve this conflict before the situation explodes and the door opens wide for foreign intervention, especially since this area is vital to many countries of the world.

'Ali on Israeli Attack on Palestinian Camp

NC171602 Cairo MENA in English 1540 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Cairo, May 17 (MENA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today that the blowing up of 20 houses in the Palestinian 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp by Israel proves anew the need for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. He described the Israeli conduct as inhuman and uncivilized.

'Ali Emphasizes Arab Character of Jerusalem

NC171658 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 May (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has described Egypt's stance regarding the city of Jerusalem as a stance based on emphasizing the Arab character of the city and on protecting its holy places. He emphasized that Egypt is fully dedicated to the preservation of Arab rights in Jerusalem — rights that all foreign conquests in the area have failed to alienate.

In a statement marking International Day for Jerusalem, which will be observed tomorrow, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt's stance on Jerusalem has religious, national, and historical aspects. This is because Islamic Egypt views preserving Jerusalem as the first of the two Qiblahs [the direction in which Muslims turn in prayer] and the third of the holy mosques. Furthermore, the sight of the [words indistinct] of Egypt is riveted on Dayr as-Sultan, which the Israeli authorities have usurped from the Egyptian church to the benefit of the Ethiopian monks. By its action, Israel wants to curb the Egyptian presence that has lasted approximately 1,000 years within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed the need for raising the extremely important theme of Jerusalem on the occasion of the International Day for Jerusalem. Kamal Hasan 'Ali asserted that Egypt's stand on Jerusalem is established on several bases, including the following:

1. The Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 — as stipulated in UN Security Council Resolution No 242 — and which must include East Jerusalem, which is an integral part of the West Bank. Israel is a power occupying both East Jerusalem and the West Bank.

2. The legislative and administrative measures taken by Israel to annex Jerusalem [words indistinct] of the 1975 covenants of the Hague, and the 1949 Geneva Covenant — as admitted in Security Council resolutions.

3. The Arab residents of East Jerusalem constitute a part of the Palestinian people and their legitimate national rights must be observed, particularly the right to self-determination. Therefore, Jerusalem Arabs must participate in the establishment of any Palestinian entity on the West Bank.

4. A discussion on the merger of the main services in the city, which is possible on condition that this merger does not jeopardize Arab rights in the city.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt is the only Arab and Islamic state that has presented a specific initiative for recovering Jerusalem, has sought to carry out this initiative, and has secured international recognition of the special status of the city of Jerusalem. 'Ali noted that Egypt condemned the law that the Israeli Knesset promulgated on 30 June 1980 that declared Jerusalem as Israel's capital. He said: Egypt emphasized that this measure would be considered an encroachment on the Palestinian people's rights, a serious violation of the principles of international law, and a deviation from international legitimacy. This state of affairs calls for a firm stand by the international community — one based on not recognizing the various unilateral Israeli measures taken with regard to Jerusalem, declaring that these measures are absolutely null and void, and demanding that all states refrain from regarding Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Kamal Hasan 'Ali further stated that Egypt has also made effective moves vis-a-vis attempts made by some quarters in the U.S. Congress to transfer the American Embassy to Jerusalem. Egypt has explained to the U.S. side the seriousness of such a measure with regard to the peace efforts in the Middle East.

'Ali said that Egypt has received several assurances from the U.S. Administration regarding its vehement objection to any measures that would alter [the status of] the American Embassy in Israel or the status of the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem. Egypt has also received assurances that the U.S. Administration has no intention of compromising with Congress in this regard. Kamal Hasan 'Ali emphasized that Egypt has confronted all of the attempts that have been made to bring about international recognition of the illegitimate Israeli measures. Moreover, Egypt has severed its diplomatic relations with El Salvador and Costa Rica, in response to their decisions to move their embassies to Jerusalem.

Ghali Receives Australian Ambassador Murray

NC171158 Cairo MENA in English 1140 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Cairo, May 17 (MENA) — State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali received today Australian ambassador

here Francis Murray, on the occasion of the end of the latter's tour of duty. The meeting dealt with bilateral ties as Dr Ghali praised the continued participation of the Australian contingent within the multi-national force and observers in Sinai (MFO) during the next couple of years.

ANC Official Praises Country's Role in Africa

NC172053 Cairo MENA in English 1957 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Cairo, May 17 (MENA) — Egypt's role in Africa was lauded here today by Joseph Nhlanla, visiting member of the Executive Committee of the African National Congress, which has been leading the struggle against the Government of South Africa.

In an interview with MENA, he said Egypt has been having a great role in Africa since the Egyptian July 23, 1952 revolution. "All the African leaders who led their peoples' struggle started it from Cairo and with Egypt's material and moral support," he said. Egypt, he went on, also plays an important role with regard to African states in the field of development by virtue of expertise and experts it has in the domains of education, agriculture, and economy.

On Egypt's role in backing up liberation movements opposed to the South African Government, he said Egypt can, in its capacity as a co-founder of the OAU and the Non-alignment Movement, do much, particularly in persuading member states to implement UN resolutions embargoing economic, military, and oil cooperation with that government.

The African freedom-fighter is due to leave here at dawn tomorrow following a few days visit among a delegation at the invitation of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

Kampuchea's Sihanouk To Visit Cairo 28 July

NC172146 Cairo MENA in English 1958 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Paris, May 17 (MENA) — Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of the Kampuchean national unity government-in-exile, said today that he would visit Cairo on July 28. He added that he would be visiting Japan before proceeding to Cairo. He said he would pay an official visit to France in August for a meeting with President Francois Mitterrand. Prince Norodom is currently in Paris on a private visit.

AL-AKHBAR Comments on 'Ayn al-Hulwah 'Massacre'

NC180537 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 18 May 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the heading "Before the Blood of an Earlier Massacre Dries Up," *AL-AKHBAR's* editorial today says that the 'Ayn al-Hulwah massacre is a new massacre to be added to the black history of Israeli massacres of innocent sons of Palestinian people. This history starts with the Dayr Yasin massacre and ends with the Sabra and Shatila massacres. *AL-AKHBAR* draws attention to the fact that the continuation of these operations by the Israeli forces, which aim to exterminate the Palestinian people, makes it incumbent on the entire Arab nation to repulse them in order to stop Israel from continuing its crimes. The protection of Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation is the duty of every Arab and of every free and honest person. It is also the duty of all international organizations and bodies. *AL-AKHBAR* concludes by saying: Israel must know that violence only breeds violence, and that despite all its attempts it will not be able to exterminate the Palestinian people, because they are a symbol and symbols do not die.

Planes Strike Two 'Naval Targets' 18 May

JN180603 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0536 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out an air strike at dawn today against two large naval targets south of Khark Island of the Iranian coast. A military spokesman informed INA that the Iraqi planes scored direct, effective hits on the two targets. He also said that flames were seen rising from the two targets and that all of the planes which participated in the air strike returned safely to base.

The spokesman said that this air strike confirms the Iraqi Armed Forces' ability to continue their siege of Khark Island and the other Iranian ports in the Arab Gulf.

Japan Orders Oil Tankers, Ships To Leave Gulf

JN181038 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0952 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] London, 18 May (INA) — An informed source in the British oil tanker market said today that Japan has ordered its tankers and ships to leave the Gulf as soon as possible. In a statement to INA today, the sources added that there are 10 giant oil tankers and 13 cargo ships in the Gulf region. The oil tankers have received orders to fill up with crude oil from the nearest port and immediately leave the region.

The sources said that the Japanese decision was made following an urgent Japanese Government meeting yesterday, which was attended by several experts on Gulf affairs. Japanese heavy industries will be affected by this decision, because 60 percent of the Japanese oil imports come from the Gulf region. The sources pointed out that Iran would be losing about 500,000 barrels a day in oil exports as a result of the withdrawal of the giant Japanese tankers.

The sources made it clear that the main reason the Japanese tankers have not sailed to the Iranian ports is the activity of the Iraqi Air Force, which hit a number of oil tankers and cargo ships that were heading toward Iran's Khark Island and the port of Bushehr. The Iraqi Air Force has been successfully tightening the blockade on Iranian oil exports from these ports since early May.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,468 - 17 May

JN171628 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 May 84

[Communique No 1,468 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 17 May 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

For the sake of safeguarding the sovereignty of great Iraq and the values of the glorious Arab nation, our victorious Armed Forces are continuing their valiant activities against the forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite clique. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units opened fire on a number of enemy positions, troop assembly points, and engineering equipment in the operational area east of Basra, killing or wounding several troops and destroying two vehicles, four infantry positions, one hardware stockpile, and two weapons emplacements. The occupants of the two emplacements were killed.

2. The brave pilots of our helicopter gunships today attacked the enemy positions, troop assembly points, and vehicles in the areas opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring accurate hits and destroying eight assembly points and one vehicle. They returned safely with their helicopters, praise be to God.

3. Our capable artillery dealt strong and effective blows to the enemy positions and assembly points in the east Tigris operational sector, killing eight, wounding others, and destroying one gun. Those manning the gun were killed.

4. In a successful activity carried out the day before yesterday, one of our brave units managed to capture three of the enemy personnel in the central sector of the battlefield. Elsewhere in the same sector one infantry position and one hardware stockpile were destroyed.

5. Four were killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

6. Yesterday evening and today, the vile Iranian regime shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Khurmal, and their environs with heavy artillery. The enemy shelling wounded six civilians and damaged one civilian car and several civilian establishments in Basra, set one house and six orchards ablaze in Mandali, and damaged several civilian establishments in Zurbatiyah and Khurmal.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 May 1984

Dailies on Khark Island Siege, War Escalation

JN170755 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 May (INA) — Two Iraqi papers have stressed that the only possible solution to the complicated and grave situation resulting from the Iranian practices is to halt the war, thus ending the tension and the threats endangering the Arab Gulf region.

Under the headline "Halting the War is the Solution" *ATH-THAWRAH*, organ of the Ba'th Party, says that halting the war has now become an urgent need for all the peoples in the region, including the Iranian peoples. The paper stresses that Iranian aggressions and threats express Iran's insistence on prolonging and expanding the war in this strategic and sensistive region and that this poses a threat not only to security and stability in the Arab Gulf but also to world peace and security.

ATH-THAWRAH explains that Iran's premeditated escalation of the war clearly reveals the true nature of the Iranian regime and expresses its trends, ambitions, and designs of expansion and aggression against the Arab nation and against the security and stability in this region.

The paper stresses that the recent escalation of the war will advance the suspect foreign schemes in the region and will drag it into the whirlpool of foreign interventions in a manner that will seriously endanger the legitimate interests of the countries in the region.

Concluding, the paper says that Iraq stands to the side of the brothers in the Arab Gulf counntries for deterring the Iranian regime, curbing its willfulness, and seriously confroting all its aggressive schemes and practices.

Under the headline "Security Will Be Achieved Only if the War Ends" *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: The region cannot be secure unless the causes which made Iraq impose a siege on Khark Island are removed, and this can be done by ending the war.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that Iraq will remain more determined in imposing its siege on Khark Island as it has no other choice but to use its legitimate right of self-defense and paralyze the forces of its enemy with the means and methods that are available to it. The siege of Khark Island is one of these means.

The paper says that Iran's war against Iraq is a war waged by Iranians against the entire region because Iran seeks to impose its control on it by force. The paper adds: If Iran has had Iraq as its target from the beginning and not any other country, this has been so because it is the only regional power which is taken into account and which, if removed, would open the doors wide to the Khomeyniite barbarism.

Concluding, the paper says: That's why Iraq had to choose the appropriate means and methods with which it could paralyze Iran's capability to prolong the war by putting pressure on its main arteries, and that's why the siege was imposed on Khark.

Foreign Minister Leaves For Tunis 17 May

JN171259 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat this morning visited the Foreign Ministry where he met with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. They discussed a number of topics related to the Foreign Ministry and reviewed the agenda of the Arab foreign ministers who will begin their meetings in Tunis the day after tomorrow, Saturday. Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri left Amman today for Tunis to head Jordan's delegation to these meetings. In a predeparture statement, Al-Masri said that the meeting, which is due to start the day after tomorrow, Saturday, will discuss the means of creating the proper atmosphere regarding the convocation of the 13th Arab summit and fix a date for its convocation. He added that another meeting will be held tomorrow, Friday, for the ministerial follow-up committee which is related to the Iraq-Iran war. He said that this committee will review the results of its visits to a number of states and the possibilities for future action.

In reply to a JNA question regarding the possibility of holding the anticipated Arab summit, Al-Masri said that the current circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing and developments in the international arena necessitate that this summit be held urgently, and that Jordan believes that the convocation of the summit is a necessity that can no longer be postponed.

Sharaf on PLO, Reconciliation With Damascus

NC180645 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 May (MENA) — Jordanian Information Minister Layla Sharaf has said dialogue and contacts are continuing between Jordan and the PLO in order to reach positive results on Palestinian and Arab issues. In a statement published in today's issue of *AL-JUMHURIYAH* , but made during her recent visit to Cairo, the Jordanian minister said Jordan is not in a hurry to make decisions or achieve results. She also said the PLO is adopting the same stand, since there were no new political moves or initiatives requiring an immediate response. In her statement, the Jordanian information minister denied that there were contacts aimed at achievingreconciliation between Amman and Damascus. The Jordanian minister urged the Arab nation to take positive action to confront events, crises, and challenges before these worsen and bring devastating results to the Arab nation and its neighbors.

AR-RA'Y on 'Double-Faced' U.S. Role in Gulf

JN180757 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 May 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "The Double-Faced Role," *AR-RA'Y* says: It is difficult to separate the dangerous turning point the Gulf war has reached, represented by Iranian air raids against Kuwaiti and Saudi oil tankers, from the blackmail that U.S. envoy Richard Murphy practiced in his failed visit to the Gulf countries a few weeks ago. Murphy tried to convince Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE to accept the U.S. umbrella in order to defend themselves from the so-called foreign dangers threatening them. The Iraqi-Iranian war reached the dangerous turning point a few weeks later, and Saudi and Kuwaiti tankers were exposed to Iranian shelling.

Thus, this development seems to be both a premeditated punishment against Gulf countries which rejected the U.S. umbrella and an excuse for the United States to practice a military presence in the region under the pretext of safeguarding Gulf navigation. This U.S. intention was clearly disclosed in the U.S. pledge Larry Speakes made to protect navigation in the region.

AR-RA'Y adds: The suspect U.S. stand throughout the stages of the Iraq-Iran war — the stand which fraternal Iraq has condemned many times — and the abortived U.S. attempt to blackmail Gulf countries and put them under the U.S. umbrella show that the U.S. pledge is not motivated by concern over the safety of Gulf navigation. It is the result of events which preceded and prepared for this pledge and which cast doubts on the U.S. role.

Thus, the United States is practicing a double-faced role in the Gulf region. While the United States is currently trying to appear to be the savior and protector of freedom of navigation, no one can forget the other face which showed its teeth in an effort to put countries under its umbrella. Hence, we can say that the U.S. pledge to protect navigation in the Gulf is in fact a premeditated step which may turn the region into a hotbed of international disputes.

AR-RA'Y concludes: This dangerous development — its motives and consequences — may warn the Arabs of their responsibility to end Iranian insistence on continuing the war, to safeguard the region's Arab identity, and to keep it away from foreign forces' disputes and ambitions.

Karami on Amendments to Draft Policy Statement
NC172012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] In an interview tonight with Lebanese television, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that there will be no amendments to the bases and principles mentioned in the draft statement of policy which the ministerial committee approved last Monday. He added: What is taking place however is that some paragraphs in the statement are being rewritten in a way that conforms with the trend to introduce a new charter for Lebanon. We hope and wish that this charter will guarantee stability for scores of years, if not forever.

Prime Minister Karami added: Agreement must be established with regard to the bases and principles incorporated in the ministerial statement, which must reflect the noble ambitions of the Lebanese and their aspirations equally in terms of form, meaning, and concept.

The prime minister said that the ministerial committee's draft statement embodies the principles and facts that the Lebanese unanimously agree upon, particularly those that were discussed at the two National Dialogue Conferences in Geneva and Lausanne and at the Damascus summit between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad.

Prime Minister Karami expressed his hope that the Cabinet will endorse the final draft of the ministerial statement on Saturday.

Referring to the security situation, the prime minister said that the information media should concentrate on cooperation, report on those aspects of love and peace found among the sons of the same homeland, and avoid that which harms the national unity and separates the hearts. He stressed the importance of the call to peace and of repudiating the instigation to war because the word is more effective than the gun. He called for putting an end to the inflamming of hearts in a negative manner and for concentrating on what brings the people closer, strengthens their cohesion, and ends estrangement.

Al-Jumayyil To Meet Sham'un, Karami on Statement
NC180729 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 May 84

[Excerpts] An amended government statement will be discussed during the intensive meetings that will be held at the Presidential Palace in B'abda today between President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and [former] President Camille Sham'un. Yesterday, Sham'un completed redrafting the government statement and rewording some of the fanatic expressions such as this one contained in the statement's preamble: "The Lebanese national resistance has shaken the ground under the feet of the enemy." Some ministers, especially [former] President Sham'un, believe that such expressions obstruct the endeavors being made in Washington and some European capitals to pave the way for instituting security arrangements between Lebanon and Israel to ensure the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the south.

Another meeting will be held later between President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami. Karami last night received Minister Walid Junblatt and reviewed with him the amendments made to the draft statement. Karami emphasized that these amendments do not deal with the bases and the principles contained in the draft statement. He explained that the matter concerns rewriting some of the paragraphs in a way that conforms with the trend [tawajjuh] to establish a new charter for Lebanon. The prime minister hoped that this charter will guarantee stability for scores of years, if not forever.

Ministerial sources have disclosed that the draft statement notes that the Internal Security Forces are given the responsibility of maintaining security in the country and seeking the help of the Army when it becomes necessary. The draft statement also emphasizes adherence to a foreign policy that is characterized by positive neutrality and nonalignment in international conflicts. It also contains one position [tawajjuh] for liberating Lebanon from the foreigners, particularly the south and western Al-Biqa', as a way of settling the issue of the expression [in the policy statement] related to liberation — an issue which has caused some problems among the Cabinet members.

The draft statement also points to the adoption of a new procedure in educational, financial, and development affairs and ends up by requesting extraordinary powers for reconsidering the legislative decrees.

Junblatt Takes Over Public Works Ministry
NC171140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] New Public Works Minister Walid Junblatt this morning took over the Public Works Ministry from his predecessor, Engineer Pierre al-Khuri. The transfer of office ceremony took place at the buildings directorate in the presence of the ministry's senior employees.

Head of Mission in Iran Recalled for Consultations
LD171938 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1843 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Beirut, 17 May (KUNA) — Informed diplomatic sources have told KUNA that the Lebanese Foreign Ministry has recalled the head of the mission responsible for Lebanese interests in Iran, Ahmad al-Shammat, to Beirut for consultations on the future of Iranian-Lebanese relations. The sources, who preferred not to be revealed, stated that preparations are under way to resume relations between Lebanon and Iran, which were severed recently, following the withdrawal of the Iranian armed forces who were present in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' area. The sources added that an Arab country, which it did not specify, is exercising diplomatic mediation between the two countries in order to resume relations. It is to be recalled that relations with Libya were frozen at the same time as relations with Iran, and that relations between Lebanon and Libya were recently resumed.

Clashes in Commercial Center, Sodeco Continue

NC171953 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The security situation remains tense with clashes that started at 1900 continuing in the commercial center and Sodeco areas. Various types of weapons are being used. It has been learned that urgent contacts are now taking place to achieve a cease-fire.

Amal Kidnaps Soldiers on Road

NC171427 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The outlying areas of 'Ayn ar-Rummanah have been coming under heavy sniper fire from medium-caliber weapons for some time now. Citizen Elie Badr has been seriously wounded.

The Lebanese Army's positions near the Municipal House in the Old Markets area had earlier come under heavy sniper fire from the positions of the various organizations opposite them near Al-Hajj Dawud intersection.

The fates of soldiers Camille, Ilyas, and Mas'ud Rahmah remain unknown despite the ongoing contacts in this regard. The three soldiers were kidnapped by Amal gunmen along the 'Aynata-Al-Arz Road while on their way from Dayr al-Ahmar.

Army Positions Under Fire

NC180915 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] An observers' post in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah was subjected to sniper fire a short while ago from Hayy al-Mu'allim and the periphery of Villa Marun. Volleys of sniper fire are now being directed against the Lebanese Army positions in Saint Therese and Abu Jawdah. Meanwhile, the An-Nasirah-Primo area is now coming under sniper fire from Mahattat Khayrallah on the Damascus road.

Reportage on Situation at Sidon Refugee Camp

AFP: Camp Extremely Tense

NC171302 Paris AFP in English 1252 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Beirut, May 17 (AFP) — Two Palestinians were wounded by gunfire today during an anti-Israeli demonstration at 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, at Sidon, southern Lebanon, reporters in the area said. The Palestinians were shot either by members of the "National Guard," a camp militia of Israeli-armed Palestinians, or by members of the Israeli intelligence service, the sources said.

'Ayn al-Hulwah was described as being extremely tense after the incident. Israeli military vehicles blocked off the southern and western exits, while Israeli forces and miliamen patrolled the streets.

Earlier today, Fadilah Yusuf Salih, a camp inhabitant aged about 30, died after she was shot in the head by Israeli forces making their second incursion into the camp, the reporters said.

(In Jerusalem, an official Israeli military source denied that anyone had been killed or wounded in the camp today.)

Yesterday the Israelis dynamited a number of dwellings and seized 110 inhabitants, a number of whom have been released, according to unconfirmed reports.

Israeli Commander on Events

NC171710 Paris AFP in English 1651 GMT 17 May 84

[Jean-Francois le Mounier dispatch]

[Text] 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, southern Lebanon, May 17 (AFP) — Tension remained high in this Palestinian refugee camp today, as the local Israeli military commander denied his troops had invaded the camp with tanks and explosives. Gunfire and a number of clashes were reported in the camp today, although this afternoon it appeared tensely calm, with no Israeli troops in sight. Residents had partly blocked approaches to the camp, and people were wary of taking to the streets for fear of further clashes.

In the first official Israeli version of events on Tuesday night, Lieutenant Colonel Gyora, commander of Israeli forces in the southern Lebanese coastal town on Sidon, where the camp is situated, said his troops had conducted a four-hour operation in the camp to arrest suspects and destroy an arms cache. Two people had been wounded, and 26 suspected of planning attacks had been arrested, Lt-Col Giyora said.

"All the other allegations, the tales of dynamiting, of the use of tanks, and the exaggerated figures of the numbers of arrests are false". "The truth is that we acted on precise information", he said. "One of my patrols, about 60 men, entered (the camp) on foot to carry out these arrests. There was no resistance, and no demonstrations".

One suspect was wounded when he tried to run off, and was later handed over to the Red Cross, Lt-Col Giyora said. A woman who refused to allow soldiers to search her home was wounded when soldiers fired at the door.

(Unconfirmed reports from the camp said 15 people had been injured when Israeli troops invaded the camp with tanks, dynamited a number of homes and arrested 110 people).

The Israeli Army had found a large arms cache, 100 kilos (220 pounds) of explosives and arms, Lt-Col Giyora said.

"We exploded it there, and the courtyard of a house was destroyed in the blast, but the inhabitants had of course been evacuated beforehand".

"That was the only 'dynamiting' we carried out", he added.

Lt-Col Giyora said "a certain tension" was still in evidence in the camp, and there had doubtless been further violence, but "it is not due to the presence of our troops, who have not gone in since dawn on Wednesday". Nor was it caused by Christian militias or the southern army of Lebanon, he added.

"The shots, bangs, and even the large explosion everyone heard in Saida Thursday morning were due to internal rivalries in the camp, and a fight between pro-Syrian elements of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Lebanese Shi'ite militias", he said. He also denied reports that Israeli troops shot dead a woman in the camp this morning.

"We have been able to establish that a body — definitely a woman — was buried at midday in the camp, but internal clashes were the cause of that death", he said.

Late today, the camp seemed totally lifeless, although there was no Israeli presence in evidence. The first Israeli posts were some distance away, and Lt-Col Giyora said "our policy is not to intervene, as our interests are not at stake, unless the clashes get worse".

However, he would not allow journalists to go too close, or to enter the camp, "because I am responsible for your safety, and we know there are still a lot of weapons there".

Heavy Gunfire Reported in Camp

NC172130 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2114 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A report received from the south states that at approximately 2100 yesterday [17 May] the sound of heavy automatic fire — proceded by a violent explosion — was heard in Sidon's 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. It has been impossible to gain further details in view of the security atmosphere prevailing in the area following its exposure to raids and bombings by the Israeli enemy over the past 2 days.

Israel's Lubrani Visits Iqlim al-Kharrub 17 May

NC171205 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Uri Lubrani, coordinator general of Israeli activities in Lebanon, today visited Iqlim al-Kharrub, in order to acquaint himself with the situation in the wake of the agreement reached between the Junblattists and the Lebanese forces — the agreement which was sponsored by Israel.

Lubrani Holds News Conference

NC171420 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Uri Lubrani, coordinator general of Israeli activities in Lebanon, held a news conference today at noon in Jun Township. He called on the inhabitants of Iqlim al-Kharrub, with their various communities, to cooperate among themselves. He asserted that the inhabitants of An-Na'imah and Ad-Damur will return to their areas provided that all in the area follow the correct path with regard to their own interests and Israeli interests. The Israeli official said his country believes that the spirit of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is continuing and will continue despite the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

Further on Lubrani's Remarks

NC171545 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Uri Lubrani, coordinator general of Israeli activities in Lebanon, has emphasized that Israel believes the spirit of the 17 May agreement still exists and will continue to exist despite its unilateral abrogation in response to the pressures applied by a foreign country. During a tour of the Iqlim al-Kharrub area at noon today, Lubrani said the return of the majority of the people to this area is the beginning of a new stage, despite the presence of certain difficulties which we will continue to act to overcome.

Lubrani said he addresses himself to the sons of the area, not just Christians, but to all sects, because they will be the neighbors of Israel and its people for 2,000 years and more.

Regarding the return of people to Ad-Damur and An-Na'imah, Lubrani said that as long as everyone in the area proceeds on a correct path, steps to return the inhabitants will not fail. He said that the inhabitants will return to Ad-Damur and An-Na'imah.

On the fortifications established by the socialists in Iqlim al-Kharrub, Lubrani said: I have become aware of the problems and difficulties regarding this issue, and we will act to overcome them.

Lubrani further said that his presence in the Iqlim al-Kharrub is not a coincidence; rather, he came on the anniversary of the signing of the 17 May agreement. He pointed to the presence of difficulties in the area even after the agreement [between Druze and Phalangists] that has been reached among the sects. However, he stressed that the situation requires more time and that it will be dealt with through patience and the required will, because, as he said, the issue that concerns Israel and the Lebanese is the establishment of peace and a free Lebanese state.

Nizar Najaryan, head of the Free Christian Grouping, said that Lubrani's tour is a significant event for the Christians residing in Iqlim al-Kharrub, the south, and western Al-Biqa'. The tour indicates that Israel is interested in the situation there and in consolidating the agreement among the sects in Iqlim al-Kharrub, on the understanding that a new door has been opened regarding cooperation among the various Lebanese sects with the help of the Israeli state.

Greek Catholic Bishop Ra'd, guide [murshid] of the Free Christian Grouping, disclosed that he has received a message from Israeli President Hayim Herzog addressed to the mayors and mukhtars of Ash-Shuf, Az-Zahrani, and Jazzin, in which he stresses Israel's readiness to cooperate with and help them. Bishop Ra'd thanked Lubrani for visiting the area.

VOAL Reports on Israeli Actions in South

NC171735 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] It was reported today that the Israeli occupation forces cut the Sidon-Az-Zahrani road this morning. They fired randomly at cars in order to intimidate their passengers. It was also reported that the occupation forces today increased their foot and mobile patrols in various cities in the south. They attacked Ansariyah township in the Az-Zahrani district and fired randomly at the citizens, critically wounding Hasan Nasir in the head.

Lebanese national resistance men today carried out two new operations against the Zionist occupation. At dawn today, they attacked a patrol on the Rum-Jazzin road, scoring direct hits. The second operation was carried out on the Jwayya-Tyre road. An enemy vehicle was destroyed, and some of its members were killed or wounded. The occupation forces searched the area, as usual, for the perpetrators.

Zionist gunboats sailed the Lebanese territorial waters off the southern coast today. They reached Khaldah Beach at noon. Zionist warplanes overflew the Ash-Shuf and Iqlim al-Kharrub coast at 1100 this morning on reconnaissance sorties.

Israelis Lift Siege on Southern Town

NC171750 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] According to security reports, Israeli enemy forces have lifted the siege on ('Aytit) township [in the south] and have released Khalil Ibrahim Ramadan who is from Ar-Rayhan township in the Jazzin district.

Israelis Arrest 16 in Kafr Shuba

NC180722 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Reports from southern Lebanon say the Israeli forces yesterday arrested 16 persons from Kafr Shuba village, in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon. These arrested include two Lebanese Army soldiers, the principal of the government school in the village, and three teachers. Yesterday, the Israeli forces shot and wounded a person carrying a hunting rifle in Tyre.

Casualties Claimed in Attack on Israeli Patrol

NC171115 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] This morning members of the Lebanese National Resistance attacked an Israeli patrol near the township of Jwayya east of Tyre. A number of enemy soldiers were wounded during the operation.

Other Anti-Israeli Operations Reported

NC180649 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The Lebanese national resistance fighters have stepped up their operations against the Israeli occupation forces in retaliation for the treacherous practices to which the Lebanese citizens have been subjected. The resistance carried out three operations. The first was directed against Israel's agents — the border militias — near the town of Mashgharah in the western Al-Biqa'. Two enemy soldiers were wounded in the machine gun attack. The second operation was carried out against an Israeli patrol on the Jazzin-Rum Road in which machine guns and hand grenades were used. A number of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded. The resistance carried out their third operation by throwing a hand grenade at a house owned by an Israeli agent in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah area.

Birri Remarks on 17 May Agreement Anniversary

NC171642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, received at noon today Dr Muhammad 'Atallah, chairman of the Board of Development and Reconstruction, and discussed with him affairs pertaining to the Ministry of State for the South and Reconstruction Affairs. Upon leaving his office at the UNESCO building at 1415 this afternoon, Minister Birri said: On the occasion of the anniversary of the 17 May agreement, the only thing that can be said is that the agreement has only been cancelled in writing. We cannot celebrate any occasion as long as the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya remain under occupation.

Birri, Skaf Discuss Al-Biqa' Security Problems

NC180531 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The issue of the military establishments was discussed at a meeting held yesterday between Minister Nabih Birri and Colonel Simon Qassis. Amal sources disclosed that Qassis and Birri failed to achieve progress on the issue. The same sources expressed pessimism over the outcome of the meeting. The Amal sources also revealed that Ministers Nabih Birri and Joseph Skaf held a side meeting during the recent Cabinet session. Skaf, according to the Amal sources, raised the issue of security problems in the Al-Biqa'. He accused the Amal Movement of being directly involved in these problems, foremost being the Zahlah Duhur ash-Shuwayr roadblock, which is harassing Zahlah's inhabitants.

Hezbollah, Jundallah Independent of Amal Movement

NC171435 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A joint meeting was held today in West Beirut between the commands of the so-called Hezbollah Party and the Jundallah [militias] under the chairmanship of Shaykh Muhammad

'Abd al-Husayn Fadlallah, who criticized the stands of Minister Nabih Birri. He said the two organizations are independent and will not abide by the Amal Movement's stands. He pointed out that the cease-fire agreements do not cover these two organizations.

Car Bomb Blast Kills One in Al-Biqa'
NC180556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Reports reaching the Voice of Lebanon from the Al-Biqa' this morning say a booby-trapped car exploded in Barr Ilyas last night, killing one person and injuring three others. While some reports say the target of the blast was the headquarters of the Arab Army of Lebanon, others say the blast was aimed at the Progressive Socialist Party's headquarters.

VOL Says Socialists Organize Palestinian Entry
NC171511 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] In cooperation with the As-Sa'iqah organization, the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the socialists have established a bureau in 'Alayh located between the electricity company and the post office. The bureau organizes the process for Palestinians to enter West Beirut.

Khaddam Confers With Algeria's Messaadia

JN171248 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1200 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Algerian FLN Political Bureau member and Central Committee Permanent Secretariat official. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', Algerian Ambassador in Damascus Salih Boujoumaa, and the delegation accompanying Messaadia. During the meeting, the talks revolved around the current Arab situation and matters of mutual interest.

Messaadia Leaves Damascus

JN171551 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] In a statement before leaving Damascus this afternoon, Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Algerian FLN Political Bureau member and Central Committee Permanent Secretariat official, said that his talks with the Syrian officials are within the framework of the militant relations between the two parties and countries. He added that these talks included all the Arab issues and affairs, especially the Palestinian question. Messaadia was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party; and a number of party officials.

USSR's Aliyev Receives Minister al-Khatib

JN171934 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has praised Syria's firm, principled, and courageous stands under President Hafiz al-Asad, who is leading the struggle against imperialism and Zionism in the region with determination, steadfastness, and clear and farsighted policy. He also praised the strong relations between Syria and the USSR. He said: Our relations with Syria are based on firm principles to benefit our two peoples and countries and to achieve peace in the Middle East and the world.

During a meeting today with Awqaf Minister Dr Muhammad Muhammad al-Khatib, who is currently visiting Moscow, Aliyev reiterated his country's support for Syria's just struggle to achieve peace in the Middle East based on Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the full rights of the Palestinian people. At the end of the meeting, Aliyev asked Dr al-Khatib to convey the Soviet leadership's greetings and best wishes to President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian leadership.

Talas Visits Eastern Area, Addresses Fighters

JN171954 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] At the instruction of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, has visited the eastern area. He met with the fighters and conveyed to them President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings and wishes for success in their tasks.

Gen Talas was accompanied on the visit by Major General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces; major general the commander of the Air Force and air defense; and major general the deputy commander of the Air Force and air defense for air defense affairs.

Upon arrival at the place for the celebration, Gen Talas was received by the commander and officers of the eastern area. Gen Mustafa Talas addressed the fighters amid stormy applause and cheering for the leader of the triumphant march, struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. He explained the political and military situation in the Arab arena, stressing that with the potentials it possess, Syria is ready to deter and repulse imperialist-Zionist aggression, regardless of the sacrifices. He explained the Zionist enemy's strategy and the possibility of a treacherous aggression against Syria as a result of foiling the 17 May agreement, the Camp David Accords crisis, and the setbacks for the hostile policy of the United States in the Middle East.

In his address to the fighters, Gen Talas reviewed current developments in Lebanon and the role of Syria's Hafiz al-Asad in restoring tranquillity and peace to Lebanon. He affirmed that the victories that Syria has achieved, with the cooperation of the Lebanese nationalist forces, over the U.S.-Zionist plot have motivated the parties to the plot to regain what they lost by entrusting Israel and its agents with disrupting the security situation and creating confusion and instability there, as well as by depending on some reactionary regimes to fragment the forces of Arab steadfastness and extending aid and support to Washington in its counterattack against the Arab region.

Gen Talas pointed to the signs that prove that Israel seeks to create the proper atmosphere for carrying out a treacherous aggression against the Syrian forces in Lebanon in order to achieve the hostile objectives of Israel and Washington — objectives that include imposing control over the entire Arab region and peddling a new stage of Camp David through the Moroccan regime, which began to play its role once again after it played the role of godfather to the first stage of Camp David, which ended in the death of agent As-Sadat. Gen Talas called on the Arabs to follow the right course in order to avoid slipping into the labyrinths of the agents who sold their consciences and people to America and Israel.

Concluding his address, Talas stressed that Syria is not alone in the battle and that it is aware of the plots being hatched against it and its historic pan-Arab role in the region. He said that Syria is determined to pursue leader President Hafiz al-Asad's militant march until the Arab masses achieve their objectives of socialism, unity, and freedom. He called on the fighters to maintain combat readiness in order to prevent any treacherous aggression from achieving its vile objectives, to strongly confront the imperialist-Zionist plot, and to wage the battles of honor and pride until our steadfast people's objectives of victory and liberation are achieved.

At the end of the celebration, the area's commander presented a document to Gen Mustafa Talas written in blood expressing the fighers' loyalty to struggler President Hafiz al-Asad and pledging to pursue struggle under his leadership until martyrdom or victory.

Additional Commentary on Moroccon Actions

'Muted' Arab Reaction Noted

JN171349 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1128 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Gentlemen: It seems the apostate movement started by the fallen Anwar as-Sadat has become a policy for certain leaders and regimes as indicated by their role in encouraging the trend toward capitulation and the relinquishment of Arab rights to the point of preferring Zionist interest to the Arab right of removing the aggression against the Arabs and their territories and the threat to Arab future and existence. When an Arab territory becomes a venue for Zionist conferences and a rostrum for Zionist thought from which Israelis voice their slogans, then renunciation of Arab national rights becomes a policy and a pattern of behavior, acceptance of the Camp David danger on Arab rights becomes an act of moderation rather than of treason, and reconciliation with Israel becomes an objective which has to be generalized on all Arabs.

It has been observed that the Arab reactions to the convocation of the Zionist conference on Moroccan Arab territory showed astonishment only at the presence of the 40 Israelis who attended the conference, not at the actual convocation of the conference itself on an Arab territory. Even this astonishment was not sincere inasmuch as the U.S. State Department has already announced that Richard Murphy's tour of several Arab states has reached more important conclusions than Henry Kissinger's shuttles that led to the Camp David talks and the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Perhaps what the U.S. State Department meant by that announcement was what took place on the Moroccan territory and the Arab world's obvious muteness, which meant that apostasy has become a policy and capitulation is being programmed for the next phase which the various U.S. departments are now talking about.

What the United States wants is to isolate and cordon off the nationalist line and the Arab liberation movement. This, it believes, can only be achieved by finding the regimes that are willing to cooperate, especially after the methods of direct U.S. intervention in Arab affairs collapsed in Lebanon and after the Zionist invasion failed to enforce a peace treaty on Lebanon that would serve as Israel's weapon to strike at Syria's nationalist line of confronting aggression and seeking the liberation of the occupied Arab territories.

Since the United States has felt that the Arab masses' rejection of its policy has become a threat to those who are cooperating with it, Washington turned to certain Arab regimes, such as the Egyptian and Moroccan, to serve as its intermediaries between the Arabs and Israel. In order to help the United States with its policy, arrangements were made to hold the Zionist conference on Arab territory to see the reactions of the various Arab capitals to it and to determine, in light of this reaction, the possible success of what the U.S. and Israeli strategists are planning; namely, the military strike at Syria and the Lebanese.

But despite this success for U.S. diplomacy, the results will still have to depend on the reaction of the masses and the calculations which the United States itself has overlooked. The Arab-Zionist conflict will not be terminated by the apostasy of an Arab ruler or the capitulation of a group of regimes. Israel, even while waiting for the Arab renegades to rush to it, continues to prepare for aggression. Israel, which admits that its plans are coordinated with the United States and backed by Arab renegades, will not achieve any success as long as Syria is opposing and working for the collapse of these plans. If the sides that are conspiring against the Arab cause that the Moroccan move is a prelude to generalizing their conspiratorial plans, then they must know the strongest position in the Arab world is enjoyed by the one who makes the real decision. Syria is the one who makes the real decision. Syria will not allow the United States to determine Arab destiny and will not allow Israel to become a force of terrorism, occupation, and humiliation of Arab dignity.

Dailies Denounce Moroccan Regime

JN171028 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 17 May 84

[Press review]

[Text] *AL-BA'TH* says: In the wake of the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary forces began searching for some kind of reply and a dramatic operation to reduce the importance of this Arab triumph and give the impression that the U.S. settlement trend has not collapsed. These forces urgently sought to save Camp David from certain death after the abrogation of the agreement of submission had administered a lethal blow to it. They also found it necessary to reveal a new stage in the Arab homeland through which they would prevent Camp David from becoming the only son of imperialism. From this premise the recent step by the Moroccan regime took place to reaffirm the intentions of the symbols of the United States and Israel to completely liquidate the Arab cause.

AL-BA'TH adds: If we are to call a spade a spade, then the Moroccan regime has been known, by its overt and covert statements, behavior, and actions, to be the instrument that Zionism and U.S. imperialism have used the most for the liquidation of the Palestine cause, the Arab nation's central cause. In this respect we need not review all the evidence along this line. It suffices that we recall that this regime was the godfather of Camp David and has done its best to mediate among Arab regimes in wake of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon for entrenching the idea of capitulation and accepting the so-called U.S. peace. We believe no one has forgotten the famous dictum launched by this regime about its dreams for a new stage where a marriage between Zionist genius and Arab funds would take place. The Moroccan regime continued to repeat these dictums even when the Israeli military machine was demolishing houses over the heads of their owners in Beirut and committing the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

The Moroccan regime's hosting of the Jewish conference on the Arab land of Morocco is only part of this regime's many attempts to undermine the struggle of the Arabs and their principal cause. The step undertaken by the regime in Morocco is more than one of mediation among the Arab regimes to have them recognize Israel. This regime's role in this grave operation of liquidation has developed to the extent of entrenching the Zionist presence and giving in to its will in the Arab region and not only that of recognizing Israel.

One of the strangest coincidences is that the Moroccan regime undertakes this step while it has severed its diplomatic relations with Honduras and Costa Rica for having transferred their embassies to Jerusalem and while this regime continues to chair the committee for regaining Jerusalem.

ATH-THAWRAH says: In view of this serious action by the Moroccan regime, we must recall that we in Syria will continue to escalate the struggle and intensify our action to the maximum against the Camp David policy and course — regardless of the forms adopted or the slogans raised for peddling it and irrespective of the individuals who stand behind it — to prevent the liquidation of the Palestinian cause, to foil the separate deals leading to capitulation and the relinquishment of rights, and to foil the policy seeking to have the Arabs become accustomed to the presence of the Zionist entity among them as long as the Israeli policy of expansion continues to be practiced, as long as the Israeli occupation continues to harm the Arab nation, and as long as there are attempts to mislead us about who is our enemy. The Arab masses know that their enemy is the Zionist enemy which is allied and is closely linked to U.S. imperialism. It is useful to say here that Syria has always supported any Arab action that seeks to direct potentials toward the real battle arena in Palestine and against the real enemy embodied by the Zionist entity and U.S. imperialism and not toward bargaining, capitulating, misleading us about who is our enemy, and transforming joint Arab action into a Trojan horse through which the reconciliation deal will be peddled between the thief and the one who has been robbed, thus definitely relinquishing Arab rights.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes: Syria cannot allow anyone to harm or tamper with the Arabs' central cause. Syria will work to foil any step seeking to restore life to the trend of capitulatory deals after it and the Lebanese nationalist forces have succeeded in abrogating the agreement of submission and closing the door in the face of the capitulatory trend in the region. Syria's pan-Arab commitments makes it dutybound to caution the Arab regimes against this grave step that the Moroccan regime has undertaken and to emphasize the urgent need for the adoption of practical pan-Arab stands toward it. The Arab masses will no longer accept a stand of silence or of observation, because this is the difficult time, the time for responsible stands.

Ba'thists Rap Rabat Meeting

JN171334 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli — The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation participating in the meetings of the permanent secretariat of the Arab People's conference has presented a memorandum to the participants in the secretariat's meetings dealing with the Jewish conference which was held on Arab Moroccan territory.

In this memorandum, the party delegation disclosed the dangers of convening this Zionist conference on the future of the Arab struggle and called on the participants of the meetings to give it the necessary attention in light of these dangers.

In its memorandum, the delegation noted the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's continued and firm confrontation under the comrade secretary general of the party, Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, of all capitulatory and liquidatory plots against our nation, including this Zionist conference which is enveloped by new falsehoods and which is held under the sponsorship of the Moroccan regime.

In its memorandum, the party delegation suggested that the participants in the session condemn this conference, send a cable of denunciation and condemnation to the Moroccan king and to the Arab League secretary general, and call on all Arab progressive and patriotic forces to adopt stands condemning and exposing the stands of the capitulatory Moroccan regime.

It has been learned in the Libyan capital that this memorandum was approved by the participants in the session who decided to issue a stat ment asserting their denunciation and condemnation of the Moroccan regime's conspiratorial step.

During yesterday's session, the participants discussed the positive points achieved by the permanent secretariat and the negative points have obstructed its work at all levels. During the session, the suggestions which were sent by the Ba'th National Command were presented. These suggestions assert the need to develop the manner of the secretariat's work and activities in a way that will include all the Arab political, popular, and progressive functionaries, and will serve as well as entrench the militant march of the Arab revolution and progressive forces.

ATH-THAWRAH Views Gulf Situation, U.S. 'Threat'

JN180815 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 18 May 84

[From the press review

[Text] In its "Voice of *ATH-THAWRAH*" column, *ATH-THAWRAH* newspaper asks: Will the United States mount a military adventure in the Gulf? The paper says: It seems that the United States is about to mount a large military intervention in the Gulf region. Statements and threats by senior U.S. officials confirm this fact and reveal the extent of the Reagan administration's readiness to carry out a new aggressive military adventure against this region.

While Weinberger was saying that the United States was about to declare an emergency situation for its naval forces in the Gulf, it was announced in Washington that the United States was ready to send several air force squadrons there under the pretext of protecting the oil tankers that pass through the Strait of Hormuz. *ATH-THAWRAH* adds: These statements and developments are within the military action the United States is

preparing, the aim of which would seem to be occupy[illegible]ab oil wells and the Gulf region. The United States has often threatened to occupy the Arab oil wells. In order to justify its premeditated plan of intervention, the United States now claims that the Strait of Hormuz is threatened with closure and that this constitutes a threat to vital U.S. interests.

The Saddam regime bears the major responsibility for these developments, because starting the Gulf war gave the United States a cover for intervention. Today's developments prove that the scenario laid out by the United States will not deceive anyone, because the Gulf states themselves have openly declared their rejection of any U.S. military intervention. They affirm that defending Gulf security is solely their responsibility. In light of these U.S. threats and provocations, events are proving that the Zionist-U.S. danger is the main threat to the region's peace and security and that the Arabs must formulate unified, pan-Arab plans and strategies that are capable of confronting and foiling this threat.

Foreign Minister Criticizes 'Discredited' 'Arafat

PM180822 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 14 May 84 p 2

[Ignacio Cembrero report on interview granted by Foreign Minister Faruq Shara' to "small group of journalists" in Damascus, date unspecified: ""Arafat Has Lost Palestinian People's Confidence"]

[Excerpt] Question: It is now almost a year since PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat was expelled from Syria. How have relations between Damascus and 'Arafat evolved during this time?

Answer: There is no problem of a personal nature in our relations with 'Arafat. The Gordian knot is that the majority of the PLO believe that 'Arafat is not an acceptable leader to unify its ranks. The Palestinians have ceased to identify with him. The matter dates back a long time. After his departure from besieged Beirut, 'Arafat did not know what to do. And if he did know, I find that worse. The news media gave him a sense of victory, which reduced even further his already scant receptiveness to the criticisms coming from his organization. Even though we are strong advocates of the Palestinian cause, we do not have — no Arab country has — the ability to discredit 'Arafat to the levels of discredit into which he has fallen.

Question: Do you deny that, as 'Arafat asserted, Syrian troops were directly involved in the battle of Tripoli, where the Palestinian leader was besieged together with his supporters?

Answer: We are not accustomed to denying what we do not do. If we had been belligerents, we would have said so publicly.

Question: But some of us were in Tripoli and saw Syrians guns firing at the city....

Answer: Let us be serious. If our regular army had been involved in that battle, the siege of Tripoli would not have lasted more than 24 hours.

Question: What is the Syrian Government's opinion of the dialogue which 'Arafat and King Husayn of Jordan resumed nearly 3 months ago?

Answer: If they are seeking a comprehensive solution to the conflict, they have our approval. If they are seeking only to reach a bilateral settlement, we disapprove. I greatly fear that they are adopting this latter course, encouraged by the prospect of the Israeli Labor Party's return to power and against the background of the Reagan plan. 'Arafat lives with a mass of illusions. He believes that if he winks at the Americans, the United States will hasten to establish a dialogue with him and that, shortly afterward, Israel will finally recognize Palestinian rights. The trouble is that 'Arafat's illusions are shared by some Arab countries in the area.

As-Sa'iqah Spokesman on 'Ayn al-Hulwah Massacre

JN171525 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Damascus, 17 May (SANA) — The Popular Liberation War Vanguards Organization-As-Sa'iqah has strongly denounced the massacre that the Israeli forces perpetrated in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in southern Lebanon the night before last, and warned that its forces will direct heavy blows at the Zionist enemy and its forces.

Comrade Farhan Abu al-Hayja', official spokesman for the organization, made a statement today in which he said that the Zionist enemy could have not perpetrated its new massacre had it not been for Arab plotting and defeatism, represented by the Arab reactionary forces and the course of submission which 'Arafat and his deviationist gang are leading, supported by the regimes that are panting after the tables of imperialism. He noted that this Israeli massacre was perpetrated following the Jewish conference that was held in Morocco at the invitation of King Hassan II.

The Palestinian official concluded his statement by affirming that the organization's forces will avenge the innocent Palestinian citizens and will direct heavy blows at the Zionist enemy's forces and criminal leaders.

Iraqi Opposition Condemns Saddam Husayn

JN180722 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The Iraqi progressive and nationalist parties have called for renewing the struggle and intensifying efforts in order to topple the fascist regime of Saddam Husayn, to deliver our beloved Iraq, and to realize peace. A statement issued by these parties says that the Iraqi people must carry out their task of delivering Iraq from the oppression of Saddam's dictatorial regime. It says this task is the responsibility of all the Iraqi forces, factions, and nationalist and pan-Arab parties.

The statement says that the struggle to end the war that Saddam Husayn started contributes toward removing a hotbed of international tension which U.S. imperialism and Zionism are seeking to exacerbate in order to serve their expansionist, aggressive

policy. The statement condemns this policy and its threats to totally destroy the world, including the Arab region. The statement was signed by the Iraqi Democratic Group [at-tajammu' ad-dimuqrati al-'iraqi].

Briefs

Press Agreement With Bulgaria — Damascus, 17 May (SANA) — A News exchange cooperation agreement between SANA and Bulgaria's Sofia Press Agency [as received] was concluded here today. Dr Sabir Falhut, the SANA director, and Stefan Petrov, the Sofia Press Agency director, signed the agreement. This agreement provides for the exchange of information, documents, films, and photographs about the comprehensive development achieved in various fields by the two friendly countries. [Excerpt] [Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 May 84 JN]

Egypt Bolsters Army Infrastructure East of Suez

TA171215 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1145 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The Egyptians have built an infrastructure for bringing in Army forces east of the Suez Canal. This is reported by our military correspondent Doron Rosenblum. The infrastructure is capable of absorbing large numbers of forces, with all the support units. It includes headquarters, anti-tank ditches, communications systems, and road systems. All this is within the framework of a program to strengthen the Egyptian Army. This plan also includes the changing of Egyptian infantry formations ['utzbot] into armored formations.

'Anxiety' Over Egypt's Intentions Shared by U.S.

TA180722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Anxiety is shared by Jerusalem and Washington regarding the direction in which relations between Israel and Egypt are heading, in the absence of any real normalization. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that these matters were the subject of recent discussions held by the director general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, in his talks with administration officials in Washington.

Political circles in Jerusalem have reacted to reports of the preparations of an infrastructure by Egypt in the Sinai. The circles stated that these phenomena are not new, and Israel has already raised the matter in the joint Israeli-Egyptian committee. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the Egyptian Army has completed an infrastructure in the Sinai which will enable it to deploy two armies east of the Suez Canal. The Egyptians have also set up a wide network of roads in the Sinai, including a paved road along the border with Israel.

Our military correspondent adds that infiltration attempts from the Sinai have increased, including hostile terrorist activity. At the same time, the border is defined as a peace border, and the security attitude towards it corresponds to this definition.

Government Concerned Over U.S.-Egyptian Plane Deal

TA171132 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 May 84 p 8

[Commentary by Rafi Mann: "Concern — Not a Fight"]

[Text] Is Israel likely to come out within the next few months and publicly fight the United States over its plan to sell Egypt special refuelling planes — planes which will considerably expand the operating range of Egypt's Air Force? Contrary to reports broadcast last week in this connection, Foreign Ministry officials say that no real discussions have begun with regard to the steps Israel will take if and when a decision is reached on such a transaction. At present, it is still not clear in Jerusalem whether reference is to a transaction that is nearing tangible form, or whether this is a trial balloon sent up by U.S. Administration sources, the aircraft manufacturers, or Egyptian diplomats. If it should transpire that such a deal has in fact been concluded, the people in Jerusalem say that Israel will not hesitate to express its "profound concern" to the U.S. Administration. Still, there is quite a difference between concern and actually fighting the deal.

The state of the "cold peace" between Jerusalem and Cairo is a source of anxiety to Israel's friends in the U.S. capital. They make efforts from time to time to dispatch reminders in the general direction of the Egyptians. A note of reprimand was recently appended to the foreign aid bill under discussion in the House of Representatives. The note states that Egypt has not been fulfilling the "spirit of Camp David" by its behavior, especially given its refusal to return its ambassador to Tel Aviv. (Incidentally, an attempt at coopting Israel into the wording of this note ended in failure). Senators and congressmen visiting the Middle East keep raising this issue when they meet with Mubarak. One of them even had a sharp verbal exchange with the Egyptian president regarding the absence of the Egyptian ambassador and the failure to return him to Tel Aviv. Some people may feel that a fight against the sale of the refuelling planes could serve as an instrument for public expression of criticism of Egypt, since the message obviously made no impression on Cairo when it was conveyed through other channels.

Israel, as we know, does not operate by direct means on Capitol Hill, and fights of this type have invariably been waged by Israel's friends in Congress, in concert with the Jewish-American pro-Israeli lobby. The head of this lobby, who visited Israel recently, did in effect criticize any possible intention to sell arms to Egypt, but was careful not to sound as though he were preparing to do battle against the deal. According to him, any further deal with Egypt would constitute a reward which Egypt has done nothing to deserve so far. However, as regards a possible confrontation to counter the deal, he says: "At a time of improved bilateral relations between Israel and the United States, both sides will want to avoid a confrontation. There are differences of interest, but these must be solved quietly and not in public."

The problem is, those who are following the matter closely say that any opposition to the sale of refuelling aircraft will be primarily political in nature, and not prompted by security threats, as could be postulated in arms sales to Jordan or Saudi Arabia, for instance. It is harder to wage fights in Congress or to mobilize public opinion when it comes to political issues. Moreover, even if the problematical issues of the deal can be shown clearly and decisively from the Israeli point of view, it is by no means easy to underline the adverse effect the deal would have on U.S. interests — a subject much emphasized in the work of the pro-Israel lobby.

The fate of the refuelling aircraft deal (which will mean added income for Boeing, the firm that manufactures the AWACS) is still unclear, and other arms deals with Arab countries have been frozen for the time being. It is believed that immediately after the elections, once the lame-duck Congress limps back to Washington — a Congress on the verge of concluding its term in office — its members will be asked to approve the sale of "Stinger" missiles to Jordan and Saudi Arabia. These deals will be submitted to Congress no later than the beginning of next year, and the administration will argue, inter alia, that its commitments to Riyadh and Amman can no longer be deferred. However, all this will take place after the U.S. presidential elections, and could

therefore be quite a different story in terms of Washington-Jerusalem relations.

Egypt's status in the United States, despite the criticism voiced there regarding some of Mubarak's steps, will not permit Israel to torpedo this deal, so long as it cannot come up with tangible Egyptian violations of the peace treaty. After all, it must be admitted that cold though it may be, we do have a peace, open borders, freedom to navigate the Suez Canal, oil sales, and diplomatic missions functioning on an ongoing basis. Other ways will have to be found for improving relations. A possible fight against the sale of refuelling planes is not exactly an act guaranteed to warm up the chill of this peace.

Government Drawing Up Security Agreement With U.S.

TA180505 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Israel and the United States are drawing up a new cooperation agreement, implying that the United States will come to Israel's aid should she be in danger. Israel radio's political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says a Pentagon delegation recently visited Israel to discuss the agreement. Political sources in Jerusalem say this is the first time the United States is prepared to go so far. The source said the agreement would be signed and published after the Israeli elections, but before the American elections.

U.S. To Purchase Pilotless Aircraft

TA180524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The Pentagon spokesman stated last night that the United States will purchase pilotless aircraft from Israel. He declined to say how many planes would be purchased and what the total amount of the deal would be. The director general of Tadiran, Yig'al Ne'eman, stated that the transaction had so far been kept secret.

According to Ne'eman, considerable importance is attached to the fact that the U.S. Navy is purchasing the Israeli planes, and the deal carries important economic implications. He told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that he has no doubt that the Americans have decided to acquire the Israeli plane because it has been proven operational by the IDF.

UN Observers Deny IDF Killed 'Ayn al-Hulwah Resident

TA171528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Violence again erupted today in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp near Sidon, during which a local woman was killed and two men were wounded. According to reports from eyewitnesses, it appears that a group of local residents was demonstrating and clashed with another group, a local militia supported by Israel. The members of the militia opened fire, and as a result the woman, who was standing near her house and watching the events, was killed. The two wounded were among the demonstrators. When the incident was reported in Beirut, sources in the Lebanese Defense Ministry were quick to accuse Israel, and in the radio broadcasts it was even said that the IDF soldiers were those who fired the shots. UN observers, however, rejected these accusations, and emphasized that those who fired the shots were members of a local militia.

IDF Soldier Wounded in Eastern Lebanon 17 May

TA171855 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Today an IDF soldier was slightly wounded 6 km northeast of the village of Jwayya in the eastern sector of Lebanon. The IDF spokesman reports that an explosive device that had been planted at the side of the road exploded while an IDF patrol was passing by. IDF forces are conducting combing operations in the area.

Lubrani Calls New Beirut Government 'Anti-Israeli'

TA180530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, has told Lebanese newsmen that Israel will not withdraw from southern Lebanon until appropriate security arrangements have been made, and that will not be in the near future. Lubrani was speaking at a news conference after he visited an area north of the Al-Awwali River as a guest of the Lebanese Forces. The visit marked the first anniversary of the Israel-Lebanese agreement, which was abrogated by the Lebanese Government.

Lubrani said the new government in Beirut is anti-Israeli and does not possess freedom of action, since it is subject to Syrian pressure. Israel would continue to act in the spirit of the agreement so that Lebanon might recover its independence, Lubrani said.

Further Comments

TA171858 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli activities in Lebanon, today attacked the new Lebanese Government headed by Rashid Karami, saying it had no freedom of action because it had been established under the auspices of a foreign country.

Meridor Spells Out Israeli Stand on Gulf War

TA171745 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] In Jerusalem, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor today spelled out Israel's stand on the Gulf war in this interview with David Essing.

[Begin recording] [Meridor] Both Iran and Iraq are enemies of Israel, and of the extreme enemies of Israel. Unfortunately those extreme trends of Islamic fanaticism in the Arab world are

gaining power, and the Khomeyni phenomenon is dangerous not only to Israel but to the whole area.

On the other hand, Iraq is fighting a war for some years now and has increased its Army to quantities and qualities that have never been in that capacity in their hands before. They have over 20 divisions, and once this war is over I do not know if these divisions, or part of them, will not be a possible reservoir for a war against Israel. Do not forget that both of them called their fights and battles the Battle on Jerusalem. So this is one thing that should be said generally on the war between these two enemies of Israel.

[Essing] Mr Meridor, The American Government seems to be leaning toward Iraq in the Gulf war. Are Israel and the United States at odds over the war as to who should be supported?

[Meridor] Well, I should not say who should be supported. It is not our war; it is not our direct business. The Americans have their interests. I understand why they do not want an Iranian victory. I can have the same arguments against an Iraqi victory. I do not think it is good for the Middle East, for the Gulf states, for Israel, and I think for the entire Western society, that any of these extreme nations will win the war.

[Essing] So a standoff is the best that Israel could hope for?

[Meridor] Maybe no victory is better than any. [end recording]

Sharon Responds to Criticism of Remarks on Iran
TA171713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Ari'el Sharon has sharply criticized the Defense Ministry and the prime minister's office for having criticized his remarks. His remarks concerned the sales of weapons from Israel to Iran. A short time ago, Gil'ad Sher heard what Minister Sharon, who is now in New York, had to say.

[Begin Sharon recording] The reactions in Israel to my remarks about the supply of Israeli weapons to Iran are a tempest in a teapot. When I was asked by a correspondent during my visit to the United States, I repeated exactly what I had stated in the United States 2 years ago, in May 1982, about a limited supply of Israeli equipment to Iran, with the knowledge of the United States, and I added that Israel is not supplying equipment to Iran now.

That is all I said.

Therefore, the reactions to my remarks as quoted in the media, including reaction from the prime minister's office and the Defense Ministry, seem ridiculous to me. I would like to add that I do not believe that such honorable ministries react to remarks without having examined them first. I would like to believe that the prime minister and defense minister are busy with more important matters. [end recording]

Alignment Demands Explanation of Sharon Remarks
TA171403 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Following Minister Sharon's remarks that Israel has sold arms to Iran, the Alignment has demanded that the government explain to the public and international public opinion whether this is true. A statement published this afternoon by the Alignment says a sinister regime is in power in Tehran, a regime that has put the conquest of Jerusalem on its flag, and if Ari'el Sharon's remarks are true, this is a grave blow for Israel and its image in the world as a whole.

Weizman States Conditions for 'Arafat Meeting
TA171739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] 'Ezer Weizman says he is willing to meet with any Arab leader, including Yasir 'Arafat, in order to advance the cause of peace. However, he makes any meeting with 'Arafat conditional on the PLO leader's recognition of Israel's existence, and rejection of the PLO covenant, which calls for the destruction of Israel. Speaking at a press conference today in Tel Aviv, Weizman said he was in favor of an immediate withdrawal from Lebanon, and stressed that an Israeli pullback should not be conditional on a Syrian withdrawal.

TZOMET Decision To Run With Tehiya Stands
TA171739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The expanded secretariat of TZOMET [Movement for the Revival of Zionism] has decided that its decision to run for election with the Tehiya movement still stands.

SHELI Secretariat To Run With CRM
TA171840 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] This evening the SHELI secretariat agreed to run on a joint list with the Citizens Rights Movement in the upcoming election. SHELI secretariat Chairman Ran Kohen told our correspondent Karmela Menashe that his aim is to gather all the dovish and democratic forces that are outside the Alignment on one list. Shulamit Aloni [CRM MK] also participated in the secretariat session.

MK Hurvitz To Run for Knesset on Independent List
TA171930 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] MK Yiga'el Hurvitz, who was formerly finance minister, has decided to run for the 11th Knesset at the head of an independent list.

PORI Poll Examines Election's Personal Impact

TA171005 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
17 May 84 p 3

[Text] At present, the majority of the public believes that from a personal point of view, it is unimportant whether the Alignment or the Likud wins the elections. This emerges from a countrywide poll conducted by the PORI institute at the request of *HA'ARETZ*.

To the question: "In the event of an Alignment victory in the elections, will this improve matters personally for you, or make them worse?" 58 percent replied that their personal situation would be "neither better nor worse," or they "don't know" how a victory by either of the two would affect them.

Some 21.8 percent said that their personal situation would improve in the event of an Alignment victory, and a similar percentage, 19.1 percent, said their situation would benefit from a Likud victory.

About 20.2 percent stated that their personal situation would worsen following an Alignment victory, and a similar number — 22.7 percent — said that they stood to lose from a Likud victory.

As for the state of the country, the public makes a clear distinction in favor of the Alignment. 40 percent believe that Israel will be "better off" if the Alignment wins, as against 21.1 percent who think that Israel's situation will improve following a Likud election victory.

The poll encompassed a representative cross section of 1,200 men and women in personal interviews conducted throughout the country.

WHO Open Vote Condemns Israeli Occupation

TA171156 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
17 May 84 p 14

[Report from Geneva by Sari Robert]

[Text] The secretary general of the WHO turned down the request of Israeli Ambassador Efrayim Dubek to decide whether a certain motion raised during the annual conference of the organization was of a political nature or not.

The affair began when Arab representatives at the conference attempted a repeat performance of their usual annual trick of extorting a condemnation of Israel for its occupation of Arab territories and the harm inflicted on the population of the territories. Ambassador Dubek opposed the motion. Like his predecessors, he contended that this was a decidedly political motion, contradicting the character of this professional international organization.

Ambassador Dubek also appealed to the legal adviser of the WHO and asked him to determine that this was a political motion and therefore debate on it was prohibited. The legal adviser was in some consternation, and in turn appealed to the director general. The latter talked with Ambassador Dubek, and begged the ambassador not to place him in such a delicate situation. It did not help even for the Israeli ambassador to point out that just 1 day earlier a number of participants in the conference had refused to debate an Iranian motion on banning the use of chemical-biological means of warfare. Those opposed to the Iranian motion claimed that it was political in character, and a motion of this type had no place at the conference.

Ambassador Dubek asked the delegates to vote on whether or not to debate the point raised. The result of the voting was as follows: 33 hands were raised in favor of a debate, 8 were opposed, and 28 abstained.

The Israeli ambassador requested a secret ballot. This was duly held, and lo and behold, only 23 voted in favor of a debate on the Arab motion; 56 were daring enough to oppose it (since no one knew who the objectors were), and there were only 11 abstentions.

However, the secret ballot did not count. When the delegates voted on the text of the Arab condemnation — openly, of course — 67 voted in favor of the condemnation. Only 19 voted against it, and 21 abstained. The latter included the delegates from Nigeria, Japan, Kenya, Nepal, Lesotho, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Togo, Venezuela, Singapore, and Portugal.

Red Cross Urged To Visit Syrian-Held Captives

TA171929 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT
17 May 84

[Text] Israel has appealed to the International Red Cross [IRC] asking it to insist on its demand that IRC representatives be allowed to immediately meet with the three Israelis who were kidnapped in Lebanon and who are now being held as prisoners of war in Damascus.

In its appeal to the IRC, Israel states that, according to all international charters and procedures, a visit with the prisoners must be allowed within 14 days of their capture, and this period has already passed. Our correspondent also reports that Israel has expressed its concern to the IRC about the way in which the three Israelis are being treated and interrogated while in Syrian captivity.

Cost of Living Increment Agreement Signed

TA171747 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT
17 May 84

[Text] Several minutes ago the new agreement for the payment of a cost of living increment, which will total 80 percent, and, in exceptional cases, 90 percent, was signed in the Tel Aviv His tadrut Executive Committee building. The agreement stipulates that if price increases in 1 month reach 12 percent or more, a motnthly cost of living increment of 80 percent will be paid. If the price rises in 1 month do not reach 12 percent, the cost of living increment will only be paid when the monthly price rises taken together total 12 percent or more.

Our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum comments that if there is a sharp rise in prices in 1 month, of 25 percent or more, a cost of

living increment of 90 percent will be paid. As for the April price rises, it was agreed that an increment of 12 percent will be paid in addition to that month's salary and in July an increment of 4.5 percent will be paid.

Yazbik Opens Lebanese Christian Representation

TA171115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Pierre Yazbik, the representative of the Lebanese Forces in Jerusalem, today officially opened the Christian-Lebanese representation in Israel. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the representation's staff have moved to permanent quarters in Jerusalem, and the head of the representation will be received by the director general of the Foreign Ministry.

Lebanon has proclaimed Pierre Yazbik a traitor. Our correspondent notes that today is the anniversary of the signing of the Israeli-Lebanese accord, which was subsequently abrogated.

Yazbik on Historical Links

TA171721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] It has been a year since the agreement between Israel and Lebanon was signed, the 17 May agreement, now known as the agreement that was abrogated. Today, to mark the anniversary, the Lebanese Christians opened a permanent representation in Jerusalem and in honor of this event, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek held a reception for them.

The man who heads the representation, Pierre Yazbik, spoke of the historical link between Christians and Jews, and the similarity between their histories. In 1975 we opted for Israel, Yazbik said, and now, in Jerusalem, we are renewing our choice and moving one step closer to its implementation.

[Begin Yazbik recording — in English] Back in 1975, we had made our choice. Today, in Jerusalem, in the capital of Medinat Yisra'el [the State of Israel], we renew our choice; we affirm it; we go further in implementing it. It is in this context that this event should be placed, and here I will refer to one of your greatest leaders, Herzl [Theodore Herzl, the founder of political Zionism]: [Yazbik now speaks in Hebrew] If you want it badly enough, it is no dream. Today, let me say, this will not be a passing episode. [end recording]

Yazbik was also received by the Foreign Ministry director general, David Kimche today, although the Foreign Ministry is trying to play down this event. Yazbik added that he assumed that Syria would step up its pressure on the Christians in Lebanon in order to force them to surrender; it would also not stop increasing acts of aggression against Israel and shelling of Israelis. Our correspondent Arye Gus was at the reception.

Foreign Ministry on Lebanese Representation Status

TA171902 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has said that today the Lebanese Forces were granted the status of a recognized organization [irgun mukar], but not that of a diplomatic representation.

Lebanese Forces' Afram on Relations With Israel

TA170921 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 May 84 p 2

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent]

[Text] Good neighborly relations with Israel are an accomplished fact, and it is time that the Arabs shook off the sick concept of hostility vi-a-vis Israel. Statements to this effect were made last night by the commander of the "Lebanese Forces (Christian)" Fadi Afram, on the first anniversary of the signing of the Israel-Lebanon agreement. On this occasion Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek held a reception to mark the opening of the "Christian Lebanese Agency" in the capital.

In an interview to Lebanon's CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, Afram stated that by canceling the May 17 agreement, Lebanon squandered a historic opportunity to shake off the vicious circle of the Israeli-Arab conflict. Instead it mortgaged its freedom and its national desires to Syria. According to Afram, the Arabs are themselves responsible for all the disasters which have befallen, and continue to befall, Lebanon. He pointed out that the Arabs maintain some sort of tie with Israel, but forbid the Christians to do the same. We will never agree to the fact that things which are permitted to them are forbidden to us. Therefore, our relations with Israel are out in the open and based on mutual cooperation and respect, benefiting both nations, he said.

Settlers Say Underground Saved Human Lives

TA180740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] An actions committee of Jewish inhabitants of the territories issued an announcement this evening saying that the actions of the underground have contributed to calm in the territories and have even saved human lives. This actions committee says that the underground members' sole intention was to serve Israel's security. The committee says that the underground's actions were prompted by the fact that the blood of the Jews in Judaea and Samaria, as the announcement phrased it, was considered cheap.

The actions committee met in the Gush Emunim offices in Jerusalem. It is also protesting the arrest of Rabbi Levinger, saying that this is a blow to the status of the rabbinate and an insult to the settlements. Our correspondent Shalom Oren comments that, in addition to the meeting held by this actions committee, other Gush Emunim activists met in the Bayit Vagan quarter of Jerusalem. These activists condemned the underground's activity.

Gabon Maintains Owatseque Candidacy for OAU Post

AB171854 Paris AFP in French 1450 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Banjul, 17 May (AFP) — Emile Kassa Mapsi, Gabonese deputy prime minister, has reaffirmed in Banjul that Gabon maintains the candidacy of Paul Okoumba Owatseque to the post of secretary general of the OAU. The deputy prime minister, who arrived in Banjul on Wednesday, delivered a message from Gabonese President Omar Bongo to Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara. He did not disclose the contents of the message during his press conference prior to his departure for Guinea-Bissau.

Ghana To Be Site of W. Africa News Resource Center

AB172045 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The GHANA NEWS AGENCY [GNA] has been selected by UNESCO to act as a resource center for the West African subregion where news agency personnel from other countries will be trained. The countries include Benin, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo.

This is part of a $2.5 million UNESCO project aimed at upgrading news collection and dissemination in news agencies in West Africa. This was disclosed by the UNESCO coordinator for West African news agency development, Mr Fall, when he paid a courtesy call on the secretary for Information, Miss Joyce Aryee, in Accra today. Mr Fall is in the country to discuss the modalities of the project and the terms of agreement. The project is in three phases and the first phase, which is worth $10,000, will start as soon as agreements are signed. The money has already been made available to GNA for extension services to enable it cater for the other countries involved. Subsequent phases involve training and series of seminars. The first seminar to last 6 weeks takes place in Cotonou, Benin in September.

Africa Hopes To Participate 'Massively' In Olympics

AB151515 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 15 May 84

[Text] The secretary general of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa, SCSA, has indicated that Africa hopes to participate massively at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. At a news conference grouping about 30 journalists of the national and foreign press in Yaounde today, Mr Lamine Ba said not a single African National Olympic Committe has manifested any intention to boycott the Los Angeles games. Commenting on the Soviet decision to boycott the Olympics, the SCSA secretary deplored the move, but declined to make any value judgement on the Soviet decision, which he described as an act of sovereignty. Mr Lamine Ba also clarified the conditions for the admission of African footballers at the soccer finals of the Olympic Games. He said African professional footballers would not be permitted to participate in the soccer finals, but World Cup amateurs would be allowed to do so. On the other hand, European and Latin American amateurs, he said, would be excluded from the soccer tournament.

Today's press conference also dwelt on the insistence of a British rugby team to tour apartheid South Africa, despite international condemnation of the decision. The SCSA secretary general said Africa considers the decision as a provocation. Mr Lamine Ba said Africa will pursue its policy of isolation towards South Africa and at the same time, to guard against isolating the continent from the Olympic movement. He deplored the planned British rugby tour of apartheid South Africa, adding that when the time comes, the SCSA and other African sporting organizations will state their position. Mr Lamine Ba concluded the issue of a boycott of the Olympic Games by saying Africa's official position will be stated after a meeting of the SCSA political department scheduled to open in Ouagadougou on 16 June.

LIBYA

Envoy in Rome Warns of Reprisals Against UK, Sudan

AU180849 Rome ANSA in English 0840 GMT 18 May 84

[Text](ANSA) Rome, May 18 — A stern warning was delivered to Britain and Sudan by the Libyan diplomatic mission here Thursday with a statement saying they must stop conspiring to dust Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The spokesman for the Libyan People's Bureau here, 'Ali 'Atiyah, told ANSA that after the failed attack on Al-Qadhdhafi a few days ago, Tripoli has "identified the Sudanese camps where the anti-Libyan terrorists are trained."

[Hong Kong AFP in its English transmission at 0147 GMT on 18 May quotes 'Atiyah as saying, "Libya has the right to neutralise them."] "If there are Libyan reactions tomorrow or later, the responsibility will be solely Sudan," he added. On Britain, he said it and the United States had joined Sudan in organizing the raid on Libyan territory.

"Britain has readied plans for intervention in Libya," he asserted. "But it too has weak points, like the Falklands and Ireland, and big interests in the Arab world. Watch out, because our patience has limits."

Describing the assailants as "Libyans sought for various crimes," 'Atiyah said Sudan supplied them with aid and diplomatic documents.

"Sudan has got into a game that is bigger than itself," he said. "He who holds a lighted fuse risks burning his fingers. It would be better if the Numayri regime turned its thoughts to solve its domestic problems."

According to 'Atiyah, the failed assailants were planning "sabotage and attacks" against diplomats from nations friendly to Libya, possibly including Italy.

He disclosed that the "terrorists" were brought together by the American secret services, "who found them in various European countries, including West Germany and Britain."

"The first training was at Mandara in Sudan. They were then transferred to Britain to perfect their use of explosives and radio equipment. "They received the arms from the American Embassy in Tunis before entering Libyan territory."

The assailants, he said, "are, for the Libyans, like the Red Brigades for the Italians."

"The Italians," he pointed out, "reacted against the Red Brigades and get angry when they learn that some foreign country is helping them. We Libyans, too, have the right to get angry with those who help the terrorists sent against us. And if we know that a country is helping them with money and arms, we may even declare war, in response to the indirect war represented by terrorism."

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Letter From Fahd on Tanker

LD171906 Tripoli JANA in English 1810 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received a letter from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia on the air attack against the Saudi *Yanbu* oil tanker.

Nigerian External Minister Gambari Arrives 16 May

LD170952 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, 17 May (JANA) — Nigerian Minister of External Affairs Dr Ibrahim Gambari arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening with an accompanying delegation on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Meets With At-Turayki

LD171829 Tripoli JANA in English 1803 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison People's Bureau met this morning Dr Ibrahim Gambari the Nigerian foreign minister who is visiting the Jamahiriyah.

The meeting discussed bilateral relations, mean and ways of developing these relations and the implementations of agreements signed between the Jamahiriyah and Nigeria in different fields for the common interest of the peoples of the two countries.

The Nigerian minister expressed the disapproval of the Nigerian people, government and Major General Muhammad Buhari of the terrorist action conspired by anti-Libyan Arab people regimes and the infiltration of terrorist groups of the Moslem Brotherhood, agents of America who were wiped out, to carry out sabotage and assassination of some people, confirming total support of the Nigerian people for the Libyan Arab people in confronting these plots.

The Nigerian minister expressed the pride of the people of his country in the aims and principals of the Great al-Fatih Revolution and leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and his firm stands towards issues of freedom and peace in the world, as well as the interest the leader shows towards the issues of the African Continent.

The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY correspondent learned that the meeting discussed the current situation in the African Continent and Chad and confrontation of the racist regime in Africa as well as support for the struggle of South-West African people and African liberation movements, and the Arab cause, the international economic situation and other international issues of common interest. Views of the two parties were similar about the issues discussed.

Meets Al-Qadhdhafi

LD172347 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution this evening received Dr Ibrahim Gambari, the Nigerian minister of external affairs, who handed him a message from Nigerian head of state Major General Muhammadu Buhari concerning African and international issues in which he stressed Nigeria stands by the Jamahiriyah in itsconfrontation with all the fierce conspiracies of international imperialism.

Turkish Minister Ozdaglar Begins Meetings

TA171049 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 17 May 84

[Text]State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar, who went to Libya yesterday, has begun his contacts there. The Turkish-Libyan joint economic committee is holding its meetings in Tripoli. Yesterday evening, Ozdaglar met with Libyan Agriculture Minister Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah for talks. The subject of joint investment in the agricultural field was discussed during the meeting. Today, Ozdaglar is expected to meet separately with the petroleum, economy and light industries, municipalities, and housing ministers.

The joint committee is discussing bilateral economic relations as well as the problems faced by Turkish contracting firms in Libya. Prospects of promoting Turkish exports to Libya, as well as solving the problems of Turkish workers employed in Libya in transferring their savings home, will also be taken up during the talks. A 25-man delegation composed of representatives of public economic enterprises is accompanying the Turkish minister in Libya.

Meets Jallud

TA171750 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Libyan Agriculture Minister Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah has said that despite the strong relationship between Turkey and his country, bilateral cooperation has not reached the desired level. Durdah made this statement during the meeting of the Turkish-Libyan joint economic committee being held in Tripoli. He added that through the expansion of work in various fields, the two countries could reach the point where their economies could complement each other. He called on the joint committee to make efforts in this direction while making the necessary preparations in view of the upcoming visit by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to Libya.

In his statement, State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar, who is on an official visit to Libya, said that he favored the promotion of relations with Libya in all fields.

The committee is discussing the development of bilateral economic relations as well as the solution of problems being faced by Turkish workers and construction firms in Libya.

In the meantime, Ozdaglar has met with 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, a Libyan leader, for talks. In a statement during the talks, Jallud said that Ozal's visit to Libya will serve to further develop relations between Turkey and Libya.

Ozdaglar is expected to continue his contacts with Libyan Government officials this evening.

Zambian Official Relays Message Through Jallud

LD180300 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud received last evening [17 May] in Tripoli J.K.M. Kalaluka, the Zambian minister of state for finance who handed Staff Major Jallud a message for the brother leader from Kenneth Kaunda, the president of Zambia. During this meeting, the Zambian guest stressed the Zambian Government and people firmly condemn the terrorist actions attempted by the cliques of the Muslim Brotherhood, the agents of America, against the Jamahiriyah and its achievements. He stressed the complete solidarity of the Zambian people with the Libyan Arab people in confronting the terrorist actions of the traitors, the hirelings and the malicious imperialist and reactionary conspiracies.

During the meeting, they reviewed the cooperative relations between the peoples of the Jamahiriyah and Zambia in all fields, and the means to consolidate them as well as the totality of the issues of the African Continent, especially the situation in South Africa and the support of the struggle of the Southern Africa peoples against the attempts of control by the apartheid regime.

Greek-Libyan Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD180332 Tripoli JANA in English 1455 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The agreement of the fifth session of the Libyan Arab-Greek joint committee for economic and technical cooperation was sign.:d by Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning and Konstantinos Vaitsos, the [alternate] Greek state minister for national economy.

The agreement includes development of bilateral relations and support of cooperation in fields of trade, investment, industry, fishing, agriculture, electricity, health, cooperatives and training. Many other agreements which may encourage cooperation in the field of social Security, labour, cultural exchange, civil aviation and housing were also discussed.

The Greek minister said after signing the agreement that Greece has strong desire to increase and support cooperation [words indistinct] economical, agricultural and industrial fields with the people of the Jamahiriyah, pointing to the civilized achievements accomplished by the Libyan Arab people and the Great al-Fatih Revolution.

He confirmed on the importance [word indistinct] Mediterranean to become a lake of peace and security. The Greek guest left Tripoli this morning after a visit to the Jamahiriyah during which

he attended the meeting of the fifth session of the Libyan Arab - Greek Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation.

LE MONDE Predicts 'Stormy Period' in Libya

PM171229 Paris LE MONDE in French 17 May 84 p 5

[Eric Rouleau dispatch: "The Regime Seems To Be Entering A Stormy Period"]

[Text] Tripoli — The brutality and boldness of the warning shot seriously shook the Libyan security services: The huge arsenal in the province of Cyrenaica in Al-Abyar, not far from the Egyptian border, was destroyed during the night of 24 to 25 March. Apparently around 200 people were killed. The sabotage was the work of an expert. The basement rooms which stored considerable quantities of arms and munitions exploded one after the other like clockwork, reducing to ashes a series of buildings, one of which was used as a prison. Many prisoners and soldiers died under the rubble. The attack was apparently followed by others.

Various incidents, including a muntiny in a barracks, are providing food for public rumors. There is talk of arrests, collective sanctions, and executions. Whether founded or not, these rumors illustrate the malaise entering the ranks of the regular army. The authorities are also keeping quiet about mysterious fires which broke out in several public buildings in April, especially in Tripoli supermarkets in which militiamen from the "revolution guard" now guarantee security. The choice of targets was probably no accident: The state-owned supermarkets here symbolize the nationalization of commerce, both big and small, the collectivization of agricultural production, and also the shortages and high cost of living. In almost all cases the attacks were clearly carried out by professionals.

Were they trained in Sudan under the supervision of American instructors, as Colonel al-Qadhdhafi states? Do they all belong to Muslim Brotherhoods which defend both puritanical customs and private property? The two students executed — or rather lynched — on 16 April both belonged to Islamic organizations and came from families of rich merchants ruined by the nationalization measures.

Virtually all economic activity is state-controlled: Industry, agriculture, and commerce are not necessarily run according to criteria of profit — hence the prohibitive cost of products — but according to the "people's needs." Very few trades, like that ofgarage mechanic, are still in the private sector, and even then only if the skilled worker does not use salaried labor. Thus the regulations prevent a doctor from setting up his own practice or an engineer opening an office. In this way they aim to eliminate "man's exploitation of man."

Col Al-Qadhdhafi meets opposition by challenge. In a speech delivered on 26 April before the "People's Congress" in a district of Tripoli, he proposed to make civil servants of tailors, hairdressers, bakers, and confectioners — "unproductive and insignificant trades," to quote him — so that the profits made by those small-scale artisans "should come to the state budget."

It is true that it is thanks to public funds that Libya has been equipped with a remarkable infrastructure in less than 15 years — 30,000 km of asphalt roads, electricity networks, running water, and telecommunications serving the whole country — and that public funds have made it possible to provide free education and health care. In addition, every citizen automatically owns the house he occupies; if he wishes to buy or build another he can have a long-term, interest-free loan from a nationalized bank.

All-Out Nationalization

However, the advantages of nationalization are are more or less counteracted by the vices which the system engenders. Stifling the spirit of initiative, bureaucratization, the black market, nepotism, and corruption in all its forms have assumed worrying proportions, as is shown by articles in the press and the complaints expressed by citizens in the meetings of the "grassroots People's Congresses," the discussions broadcast live on television every afternoon.

Since this spring the Army has not been spared. It is even one of the favorite targets of the revolutionary committees — which are inspired by Col al-Qadhdhafi himself — and the newspaper *AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR* condemns its "bourgeois" character with rare ferocity. The media pillory the Army "lords" who "lounge" in palaces and drive in "luxurious cars," as well as the top civil servants who occupy "sumptuous offices." The organ of the revolutionary committees recently published page after page of photographs of cars belonging to officers and over them printed in banner-headlines the order: "Burn them!"

The press campaign has borne fruit. The grassroots People's Congresses, to which all citizens of both sexes belong in principle, have taken over, criticizing at random the real or alleged behavior of the military.

There was a serious incident at a meeting which one of them held on 24 April in the city of Ajdabiya, situated on the coast between As-Sidr and Banghazi. Soldiers and policemen who had come in uniform to defend themselves before the people's assembly were jeered and thrown out.

Col al-Qadhdhafi thought things had gone too far to keep quiet. Speaking 2 days later at another People's Congress in Tripoli to which he had gone "unexpectedly," he condemned the initiative taken by the Ajdabiya assembly, although he criticized its form rather than its essence. Of course, he stated, the Army, by its nature, could not take part in the "direct democracy" practiced in the Jamahiriyah, "just as we would not have allowed employers to take part in the employees' deliberations," but it would be wrong, he added, to treat all the military as counterrevolutionaries. The vast majority of them were underpaid and risked their lives to defend the national territory and just causes, "especially in Lebanon."

He recalled that in the "revolution of 1 September (1969), the soldiers opened the door to power for the people." However, the apparent ambivalence of that defense plea was removed by a key sentence: "The People's Congresses and revolutionary committees ought to be strengthened," he said, "otherwise the regular Army is likely to be used by forces hostile to the revolution to destroy the people's power."

Should we conclude from this that he fears a coup d'etat? That the officers, most of whom come from the petite and moyenne bourgeoisie, the very social classes injured by the nationalization measures, might turn their arms against the Jamahiriyah? In reply to these questions, which we put to him, Col al-Qadhdhafi gave an emphatic no: "Our revolution has been a people's revolution from the start, and will remain so." Moreover, he made no secret of the fact that his aim is to create a power — and meanwhile a counterpower — which would protect him from a coup d'etat: The People's Congresses, inspired by the revolutionary committees, will be supported by the "people's army" now being formed, the latter intended to replace the regular Army.

Col al-Qadhdhafi is so anxious to achieve this that he indulged in an unusual maneuver which looks very like the imposition of his will. After the General People's Congress (the equivalent of a parliament) rejected a bill last February on the creation of the "people's army" and the establishment of compulsory military service for boys and girls, the "revolution guide" convened another "people's assembly" shortly afterward — where and how is not known — to have that same bill approved... But it is not yet clear whether this "legislation" will be implemented at all costs.

With malaise in the Army, insurrection in the People's Congresses, underlying opposition from traditionalist Muslims, violent attacks perpetrated by Islamic organizations controlled by foreign countries or not, the Jamahiriyah has probably entered a stormy period.

People's Congresses Hold More Emergency Meetings

LD171515 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIYRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The masses of Basic People's Congresses in many parts of the Jamahiriyah held meetings, yesterday, amid the preplanned terrorist actions carried out by terrorists cells of the Moslem brotherhood cliques, agents of America.

The masses have decided to form suicidal commandos to (?catch) traitors, fugitives and stray dogs wherever they are and liquidate them physically and without any hesitation. They also confirmed their eternal unity with the Great al-Fatih Revolution and its leader to achieve more victories and civilized achievements in different aspects and be constantly ready to confront conspiracies of imperialist terror and treachery.

It has become clear that the so-called Libyan Salvation Front is mere smoke screen for the Moslem Brotherhood, agents of America, who were destroyed and punished and what is left of them are still at large and wanted by international police — Interpol — on charges of forgery and theft and would be chased wherever they hide.

The Basic People's Congresses which held emergency meetings yesterday are Suq al Khamis, Masallatah, Al-Khums, Marqaz, [as received] Waser al Akhiar, [as received] and Al-'Amamirah. The Basic People's Congresses of Jardas, Ahrar, Hamamah, Suluntah, Sidi 'Abd al-Hamid, 'Ujaylat, 'Asiyah, Jamal, and Quradah of Al-Shati' Municipality held their meeting last Tuesday night.

Muslim Brotherhood 'Stray Dog' Shot to Death

LD171252 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] One of the stray dogs, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood clique of U.S. agents, was discovered today hiding on a farm in the outskirts of Tripoli. He is Salim Ibrahim al-Qadhali. He was shot and killed.

Thus this stray dog met his inevitable black fate like his colleagues, members of the traitorous cliques and enemies of the people who sneaked into the Jamahiriyah to carry out sabotage against the popular establishments and the cultural achievements and to assassinate a number of citizens.

Foreign Students on Muslim Brotherhood, Numayri

LD171654 Tripoli JANA in English 1424 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Al Bayan al Awwal, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Foreign Moslem Students of Asian and African countries went out in an angry demonstration yesterday, in Al Bayan Al Awwal, Banghazi, to protest against the terrorist acts of terrorist cells of Moslem brotherhood cliques, America's agents trained in special camps in America, Britain and Sudan.

Moslem students chanted slogans condemning these vicious terrorist conspiracies of hostile regimes and their agents, hireling Numayti, which colluded with the stray dogs and hired fugitives for harming the civilized achievements of the Moslem Jamahiriyah people by the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and its leader on all levels. They denounced the fascist hireling Numayri and declared their struggling alliance with the Sudanese people to overthrow the hireling agent who disregards the Arab Sudan's dignity and turned its territories into an American colony. He also led Sudanese economy to a tragic position rendering devastating living conditions for the citizen as a result of lack of food and medicine.

Foreign Moslem students announced their eternal alliance with the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and its leader stressing their readiness to become loyal soldiers responsive to the call of defending Islamic revolution, the Great Al-Fatih Revolution.

JANA Rages Against Al-Maqaryif, Numayri, Reagan

LD171305 Tripoli JANA in English 0935 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — On several occasions the name of the so called Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqaryif, one of the agent fugitives from justice in Libya, has come up in reports by Western news agencies and reactionary newspapers hired in Egypt and Sudan.

The Libyan Arab people met this with scorn because this man is known in Libyan social circles as a homosexual who has acute fits of hysteria and is met everywhere with scorn and derison. He is a criminal condemned by Libyan courts of robbery, forgery and smuggling of money. He does not know anything of the Islamic religion nor does he practice religion. Islam has nothing to do with such a fallen devious person who is unreliable and untrustworthy. His religion here used to be to satisfy his abnormal desires among gangs of scoundrels in back streets. As far as the so-called Front for the Salvation for Libyan is concerned, it has become clear this front is but a cover for Muslim Brotherhood which in itself is a funny name made up by Western and reactionary media and was basically set up by hireling Numayri, himself notorious for the same characteristics and perverted actions.

Reactionary propaganda and the Western media hysteria campaign intensified against Libya and levied a wave of fabricated allegations against the revolution and its leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. As it advertised for that fallen devious person named Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqaryif and the so-called National Front for the Salvation of Libya, they imagined that the sons of the Jamahiriyah could be easily harmed, and that the revolution is not far away from their evil objectives. They went even further in their vicious hope that they could gain from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and that a group of these despicable cliques who took refuge in the arms of reaction and imperialism could ever have had any effect or play a role that would satisfy their suppressed desires and respond to their deep rooted hatred. The blow was even heavier when they witnessed these gangs falling like flies when the Libyan Arab people totally exterminated them and thus made U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who used to believe the stories he used to see in the cinema that could be played by that fallen person called Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqaryif, lose an opportunity.

At the same time the slave called stooge Numayri was betting on this stray dog and on that ridiculous group called Front for the Salvation of Libya. What was then the result? That repudiated person ridiculed by the Libyan people and repudiated by his family and friends involved a group of simple minded and weak people and pushed them towards death to satisfy his desire in crime. Could this stray dog then escape punishment? Certainly not. The first people who will take revenge from him and will pursue him are those simple people because he killed their children, lured them and threw them in a fire that could not be extinguished as it burns all enemies. We deplore slave hireling Numayri, the man who carries the marks of bondage on his cheeks and forehead for his circulation through his media that a terrorist cell which infiltrated into Libya were fought against by tanks and artillery. This deeply marked slave has only to claim that cluster bombs and long range artillery were also used against this stray clique. This is what Reagan and U.S. media also did, and this is an incredible farce which shows us the size of these enemies, their way of thinking and the extent of their evil objectives and [word indistinct] truly they do not know the Libyan people from whom these only deserve stampedes and wringing of their necks as they cowardly hide while (?kidnap children) and women and bargain with them for the sake of escaping.

It is indeed a despicable stand on the part of the impotents in Sudan, Washington and London. They are indeed very stupid and simple minded and are even more despicable and depraved. Our people will know how to deal and how to retaliate, and history is best witness.

Anti-Libyan Terrorist Squads Being Trained in Jordan

LD171956 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Beirut 17 May (JANA) — Confirmed information conveyed to JANA from informed sources in Jordan has revealed there are 150 Palestinians being trained for terrorist actions against Libyans and Libyan interests and the Arab Libyan people's bureaus in a number of Arab and European capitals.

According to this confirmed information, these terrorist squads are being trained in a camp, near Al-Zarqa' in Jordan, for the Palestinians who evicted [word indistinct]. The training of these terrorist squads is supervised by elements from a pro-'Arafat group and a number of the Jordanian intelligence experts with the help of some of the oil-rich Arab countries.

It was planned that Ramadan would be the date for implementing this criminal scheme aimed also at infilterating inside the Jamahiriyah to carry out assasinations and arson in some of the establishments.

Egypt 'Inhuman Measure' at Border Separates Families

LD171404 Tripoli JANA in English 0927 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 17, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Egyptian regime authorities forbid several Libyan citizens married to Egyptian women citizens from entering Egypt through Libyan-Egyptian borders and informed them that only their wives could be allowed in.

This inhuman measure deprived the Libyan citizens and their small children from accompanying their wives. They also faced ill treatment and were forced, together with their children, to stay far away from the border post under fierce desert heat, without water or food. The Egyptian authorities did not respect the children and fathers' needs for water and food and threatened to use force against them if they approached the border post, forcing thus the People's Committee at Tubruq Municipality to send, immediately after hearing of this, water tankers and food and medical supplies to the families suffering as a result of the harshneess of the Egyptian regime's measures.

This base action is in the very nature of the Egyptian regime's behaviour which fuels hatred and disunity among the citizens of one people, between relatives and in-laws while Zionists travelling to Egypt are warmly welcomed.

The Egyptian authorities' permission to Libyan citizens' wives only to cross without their husbands and children is a despicable action which violates all moves and traditions as well as disregards all historic, religious and nationalist links.

MOROCCO

U.S. Delegation Arrives in Rabat for Talks

Armitage Arrives

LD171519 Rabat MAP in English 1204 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] Rabat, May 17. (MAP) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Richard Armitage arrived here Wednesday noon to take part in the third meeting of the joint Moroccan-American military commission.

Weinberger Arrives, Stresses Ties

LD172032 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger arrived in Fes this evening to participate in the work of the Moroccan-American joint military committee.

Mr Weinberger described the work of the Moroccan-American committee as very important, and added in a statement in Fes Airport that he will convey greetings from U.S. President Ronald Reagan to King Hassan II and will be happy with the honor to be bestowed on him by meeting with His Majesty and the prime minister, with whom he has talked during a recent visit to Washington.

The U.S. secretary highlighted the strength of Moroccan-American relations and the ancient friendship between the two countries, recalling that Morocco was the first country to recognize the United States, and that therefore his country considers Morocco its oldest friend. He stressed the importance of continuing to preserve the strength and warmth of these bonds.

Military Committee Meets

LD172244 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The work of the Moroccan-American joint military committee commenced today in Rabat. The opening session was presided over on the Moroccan side by the minister attached to the prime minister's Office for Economic Affairs, Taieb Bencheikh, and on the American side by Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense in charge of international affairs.

At the beginning of the session Taieb Bencheikh pointed out that the meeting of the American-Moroccan military committee gives irrefutable proof that relations between the two countries are advancing and their strength growing in the economic, humanitarian, and military fields.

The minister recalled the visits of Moroccan delegations to the United States, and the visits by the American delegations to Morocco. He pointed out that during the visit by the Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani to Washington, the Moroccan delegation felt the wish of President Reagan, the U.S. Senate and the American Administration to consolidate U.S. relations with Morocco. He also expressed his satisfaction with the efforts made by the United States to make the military cooperation with Morocco agree with its economic and financial needs.

The minister continued in his speech pointing out the Moroccan-American cooperation comes within the framework of the mutual efforts made by King Hassan II and President Reagan for supporting peace and freedom in the world, especially in [word indistinct]. He stressed Morocco's commitment to freedom and peace and the necessity of defending them in our modern times. He said Morocco is happy to see friends defending the same principles.

In his turn, the U.S. assistant secretary of defense expressed his hopes that the work of the committee will lead to positive results. He said that the secretary of defense, Mr Caspar Weinberger, attaches great importance to the meeting of the committee which proves the mutual trust between the United States and Morocco and their ability to work together for the benefit of their countries.

Radi, USSR's Osadchuk Chair Cooperation Meeting

LD171634 Rabat MAP in English 1218 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Rabat, May 17 (MAP) — Moroccan Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani received here Wednesday late in the afternoon Mr Osadchuk, vice president of the USSR State Committee for External Economic Relations and chairman of the Soviet delegation to the 7th session of the Moroccan-Soviet intergovernmental permanent commission relating to economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

At the outcome of this meeting, Mr Osadchuk indicated that talks dealt with bilateral cooperation and with the works of the 7th Moroccan-Soviet commission. The commission will, from now on convene once a year alternately in Moscow and Rabat, he added.

On the other hand, the opening of the works of the 7th commission were chaired on the Moroccan side by Mr Abdelouahed Radi, Moroccan minister in charge of cooperation and on the Soviet side by Mr Osadchuk.

During this session, Mr Radi underlined that this meeting occurs at a moment when Moroccan-Soviet cooperation is recording a significant progress. After he recalled the celebration, eight months ago, of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Morocco and the USSR and the recognition of the independence of Morocco by the USSR in 11 June 1956, Mr Radi underlined that Morocco, since her independence and in line with her non-alignment policy and her option to reinforce peace in the world, has been bent on promoting her cooperation relations with the USSR in trade, economic, technical and scientific areas. He indicated in this respect that the first commercial agreement between the two countries was concluded on 19 April 1958.

The Moroccan minister also recalled the visit of King Hassan II of Morocco to the USSR in 1966, which enabled to conclude important agreements and strengthen bilateral cooperation.

On his part, Mr Osadchuk evoked the different phases the Moroccan-Soviet cooperation went through and underlined the necessity to give an impetus to this cooperation. He also recommended the working out of a program relating to the achievement of concrete projects with a view to boosting cooperation between the two counties, particularly in phosphates areas.

He recalled that the Soviet Union is currently contributing in the effecting of several economic projects in Morocco and that his country is ready to enlarge its contribution, namely in fisheries and maritime transports areas.

Minutes Signed

LD172113 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] Morocco and the Soviet Union signed today the minutes of the results of the Moroccan-Soviet joint committee. The details are from Brother Siyad al-Alami in the following report: The visit to Morocco by the deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and his accompanying delegation was crowned this afternoon by signing the minutes of the Moroccan-Soviet joint committee held in Rabat from 13 to 17 May. The minutes specify the commercial, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries, and it also specifies cooperation in phosphates, according to the agreement of [word indistinct] which was signed between Morocco and the Soviet Union on 10 March 1978, and cooperation in energy and geology in addition to cooperation in fisheries and maritime transport according to the agreement of 1971 signed between the two countries.

On signing the minutes of the Moroccan-Soviet joint committee, the minister of cooperation, Mr Abdelouahed Radi says:

It is a charter for the exchange of Moroccan and Soviet materials from 1984 to 1990. We have also agreed to the exchanges in geology, fisheries, navigation, and phosphates and in scientific, technical and cultural fields. These agreements will undoubtedly assist in consolidating the cooperation relations between Morocco and the Soviet Union in all fields including the economic, social and political fields. The deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Foreign Economic Relations was received this afternoon by the minister of equipment, Mr Mohamed Kabbaj. The two sides talked about the bilateral cooperation between Morocco and the Soviet Union, and the prospects for its development.

Saharan Tribe Thanks King Hassan for Defense Wall

LD171559 Rabat MAP in English 1212 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Rabat, May 17 (MAP) — Following the construction of the defense wall by the Royal Armed Forces in the recovered Saharan provinces, the members of the special consultative council in charge of Saharan affairs of the (Ait Youssa) tribes addressed to King Hassan II a message expressing their pride and satisfaction at the execution of this wall.

They also expressed thanks to the sovereign who supervised in person the realisation of the wall to ensure the security and peace of the citizens and thwart the manoeuvers of the mercenaries manipulated by the adversaries of Morocco's territorial integrity.

The members of the council also paid tribute to the Moroccan Armed Forces who carried out this grand work and reaffirmed their total mobilization to defend the country's acquisitions and sacred values.

The defense wall which was built to preserve the kingdom's territorial integrity and ensure the Sahara inhabitants' security connects the Zaag locality (on the 28th parallel to the west of Lahmadat of Tindouf, to the south of Smara and crosses the localities of Jdareyat and Hausa on the tertiary road Smara-Tindouf.

Portuguese Socialists Stress Anti-SDAR Stance

LD171523 Rabat MAP in English 1209 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Madrid, May 17 (MAP) — Mr Rui Mateus, in charge of international relations at the Portuguese Socialist Party (PSP) and representative at the Assembly affirmed Wednesday that Portugal and the PSP do not recognize the so-called "SADR" (a self-proclaimed Sahrawi republic) and do not consider "the Polisario" (an Algerian backed guerrilla movement claiming sovereignty over the Moroccan Sahara) as "the sole representative of the Sahrawi people."

In a declaration to the news agency "NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL," Mr Mateus specified that his party admits the existence of a conflict in the Sahara that must be necessarily settled within the context of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

In another development, a source from the Portuguese Socialist Party told "NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL" that the PSP does not agree with the text of the joint communique released at the end of a PSP delegation's visit to Algiers.

The content of the communique, the same sources affirmed, is not conformed to the PSP's spirit and stance regarding the Sahara conflict. The said communique outlines that the two parties declare themselves for the settlement of the Sahara conflict in the context of the OAU through direct negotiations between Morocco and the so-called "Polisario."

ANWAL: Jewish Conference 'Gate for Zionist Ideas'

LD172043 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1829 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Rabat 17 May (KUNA) — Weekly left-wing *ANWAL*, the organ of the Organization of Democratic and Popular Action (ODPA) [party established May 1984] attacked the Jewish conference which was held in Rabat on 13-14 May and said that "there is no place for Zionism in our country."

It added that "the Jewish conference which was held in Rabat on 13-14 May could have happened in normal circumstances and without storms to study the normal internal situation of the Moroccan Jews, as normally happens every 2 years. But the

organizers of this session did not want this, and also those who were invited wanted it to become a real storm going beyond its absolutely local religious field and dimension and wanted also to give it a distinguished political character in its views of the Arab-Zionist conflict and the issues of war and peace in all the Middle East."

It said: "Since they decided to invite a large number of Zionist personalities in Europe, America, Canada, and the Zionist entity to participate in the conference under the pretext that some of them are of Moroccan origin, its organizers wanted it to be a gate for the entry of the Zionist ideology and words into the conference."

The paper added that those who were invited, whether members of the Israeli Knesset, editors of Zionist newspapers, Israeli university professors, or international Zionist personalities, such as the chairman of the International Jewish Congress, wanted it to be an extraordinary session through their speeches and addresses which were from beginning to end, arrogant Zionist propaganda which went beyond the limit and transformed the conference into a market for the various racial calls, whether implicit or explicit, and which reached the degree of mocking the national commitments of Morocco and the feelings and national forces of the Moroccan. It might not be an accident that this conference is held 24 hours before the anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine and Ben-Gurion's announcement of the establishment of the Zionist entity on the night of 15 May 1948.

It said: "Recalling the meanings of some of the speeches made to the conference and a quick check of some of the statements will show the extent of the conference's violation of the limits of (word indistinct), with the affairs of the Jewish community by its sons and representatives, as it is a sacred right guaranteed for the community by the Moroccan Constitution and values in confirmation of the spirit of the necessary coexistence and brotherhood among the sons of the same people without any religious or racial discrimination. The violation of these limits comes directly onto the bandwagon of the racialist Zionist propaganda against the Arab nation and its national cause."

It mentioned: "In the name of dialogue and coexistence, voices rose in the conference promoting the Zionist ideology, which contradicts all the feelings of the Arab peoples, and calling for considering occupied Jerusalem as the political capital of the Zionist entity."

It said: "The chairman of the World Jewish Congress went to the extent of calling for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv, and he also called for King Husayn to join the negotiations with the enemy. As for David Ammar, the head of the Jewish community in Morocco, and organizer of the conference, he talked about what he called the necessity of holding a Jewish-Arab dialogue, i.e. Israeli-Arab dialogue, concerning the Middle East crisis. He said in a clear reference to the coming election in Israel on 23 July 1984, for this reason we want the dialogue to commence at the right time with a new government and new people and new ideas." "This was an expression of his opinion that the elections will be won by the Zionist Labor Party, which is headed by Shimon Peres, on whom many reactionary Arab circles are betting in spite of his exposure during the period of his party's government and during the Israeli storming of Lebanon in the summer of 1982.

From these considerations stems the danger of what happened on Sunday and Monday, 13 and 14 May. It said that it is alarming and calls for alertness to the conference of the Jewish community becoming a jumping board for Zionist propaganda to enter our country, the country which is as hostile towards the racialist Zionist ideology as it is tolerant towards the Jewish religion. From this point we have to again question the missions of the Jewish community in Morocco, and whom it represents because believing in the Zionist ideology is enough reason for leaving the country.

Korean Party Official Departs 17 May

LD171809 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Kwon Ik-hyon, secretary general of the Korean Democratic Justice Party and envoy of the South Korean President, left Morocco after a visit to our country. At the hall of Muhammad V International Airport he made a statement in which he expressed great satiscation at his visit and at seeing economic progress in Morocco under His Majesty King Hassan II. He also pointed to his meeting with His Majesty and his talks with the Premier, some ministers, and their results which were useful. He was seen off by the minister in charge of relations with parliament, Ahmad Bilhaj, the ambassador of Korea in Rabat and a number of officials.

Trade Minister Returns From Trip To UK, Italy

LD180344 Rabat MAP in English 1206 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Casablanca, May 17 (MAP) — Moroccan Minister of Trade, Industry, and Tourism Azeddine Guessous flew back home Wednesday at the end of a tour in Great Britain and Italy.

In a statement to "MAP," Mr Guessous said his tour was aimed at sensitizing his interlocutors at the moment the ministers' Council of the European Economic Community is on the eve of making important decisions.

Great Britain, he said, is sensitive to the EEC Budget constraints and realizes the need to let the community open to exchanges currents with abroad, while Italy, which is a Mediterranean country is for a strengthened protection of European Mediterranean products. He added that he had explained to his interlocutors Morocco's viewpoint on the matter and the danger that will result from the halting or reduction of the exchanges between Morocco and the EEC.

SUDAN

Further on Return of 40 Outlaws Under Amnesty

JN171809 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Khartoum, May 17 (SUNA) — An authoritative state security organ source has said that 40 outlaws from the Bahr

al-Ghazal Dinka tribe have surrendered themselves recently to police in Tonga district, Upper Nile Region.

The forty former outlaws have told the police authorities they came in response to the amnesty declared by President Numayri last March 3, the source said.

According to the account given by the forty, they were forcibly taken by the outlaws for training in Ethiopia but managed to escape from the training camps and arrived the Fanjak district in the Upper Nile region. The source said he added that some of them had drowned along the escape route and their number were the survivors.

The 40 returnees have arrived in Malakal, the Upper Nile regional capital, yesterday (Wednesday) morning.

TUNISIA

Measures Taken To Counter Libyan 'Provocations'

NC180643 Paris AFP in English 0622 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Tunis, May 18 (AFP) — The Politburo of Tunisia's ruling party announced an unspecified series of measures Thursday night to counter Libyan "provocations" at the frontier, where informed sources reported there have been some exchanges of fire and a big troop buildup by both countries.

Libyan soldiers had made incursions into Tunisia, and Libyan armed helicopters spent Tuesday and Wednesday patrolling the border, the sources said.

Tunisia recalled its ambassador in Tripoli on Wednesday. Libya charges that raiders who launched an attack in Tripoli on May 8 got into Libya via Tunisia with official connivance. The government here has issued two denials.

The Politburo meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, is understood to have decided to mobilise party militants and coordination committees in frontier regions with the aim of accentuating general vigilance.

The sources said Libya had also expelled some 2,000 of the estimated 60,000 Tunisians working in Libya.

Libya's Foreign Minister 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki is due here for a special Arab League ministerial council meeting on Saturday which is to set a date for the next Arab summit. Observers said it was not to be ruled out that he would use the visit to hold talks with Tunisian leaders on the latest deterioration in bilateral relations.

Destourian Party Discussion

LD171343 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] The Political Bureau of the Socialist Destourian Party met yesterday evening at party headquarters in the Casbah under the chairmanship of Prime Minister and party Secretary General Mohamed Mzali, and discussed the state of the relations between Tunisia and Libya.

The bureau affirmed Tunisia's constant adherence to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of others. The bureau denounced the abduction of three National Guard men while they were performing their usual duties inside Tunisian territory and the irresponsible attacks waged by the Libyan radio which nobody in Tunisia can accept.

The Political Bureau discussed a number of measures which should be taken to face up to the provocations taking place on the Tunisian-Libyan borders.

The bureau also reviewed the deliberations of the higher joint Tunisian-Algerian committee which were opened yesterday by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and his Algerian counterpart Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi.

Algeria-Tunisia Cooperation Committee Meets 16 May

LD171329 Algiers APS in English 1027 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tunis 17/05/84 (APS) — The fifth session of the Algeria-Tunisian joint cooperation commission met yesterday under the chairmanship of foreign ministers Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and Beji Caid Essebsi.

The purpose of this meeting, said Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi is to make an estimation of all achievements on an objective basis in order to highlights the weak points and to determine perspectives of this cooperation in the future.

This present session, he added, bears a particular characteristic since achievements accomplished last year are very important because including different sectors. All these achievements come in line with the treaty of fraternity and concord signed by the two presidents in 1983, he added.

On his part the Tunisian foreign minister Beji Caid Essebsi underlined the political will of the two governments which open the way for more global, diversified and deep cooperation. He pointed out the common destiny of the two peoples and the Maghrebin dimension of their cooperation. This political will was shown through all last year, he said, expressing optimism for the future of bilateral relations.

Works of the joint commission will be carried on this morning. The closing session will be held in the afternoon and will be wound up by the signing of an official report. Mr Heddi Baccouche, director of the Socialist Destour Party, attended the session

Senegalese President Diouf Departs 17 May

LD171653 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The official visit of the Senegalese president, Abdou Diouf, to Tunisia ended today. President Habib Bourguiba this morning went to the Saadeh Palace at Al-Marsa to accompany the

Senegalese president to the airport and bid him farewell. He was accompanied by Mrs Bourguiba and the prime minister and minister of the interior, Mohamed Mzali.

Huge crowds thronged to the airport cheering for the long life of President Bourguiba and Abdou Diouf and for the continuation of the friendship between Tunisia and Senegal.

Juveniles Jailed for Part in January Food Riots

NC171530 Paris AFP in English 1509 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tunis, May 17 (AFP) — Seventeen Tunisians, all under 18 years of age, were jailed for between one and six years here Wednesday for offences committed during the bread riots at the beginning of January, press reports said today.

The offences included pillage, theft, arson, and criminal damage, the reports said.

The sentences were imposed by the Tunis Juvenile Court, which jailed six youths for six years, six for five years, and four for one year. The last was ordered to undergo one year's "re-edcuative labour."

Last Saturday the criminal court here sentenced five adults to jail sentences of between ten and 30 years as the trials began of several hundred people arrested in various towns in connection with the riots over the rise in bread prices.

Some are accused of rape and murder during the riots, which according to official figures killed 89 people and injured 934.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Hits Morocco on Rabat 'Zionist' Congress

LD171419 Algiers APS in English 1106 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Rasd (Liberated Territories), 17/05/84 (APS) — Following the holding of "a world congress of Zionism on an Arab and Islamic land," "the Sahraoui Arab Democratic Republic asked for" the definitive transfer of Al-Quds committee headquarters (in Morocco at present) and the immediate revision of the presidency of the Islamic Conference if the Arab Islamic Conference if the Arab Islamic nation does not want to offer its cards in "the sale by auctions" in the market of treason."

In a message addressed to foreign affairs minister from Arab and Islamic countries, Mr. Ibrahimi Hakim, head of the Sahraoui diplomacy, pointed out that "great services rendered (by Morocco) to the Zionist milieux so as to acquire money and support from the U.S. milieu for its war." [sentence as received]

The Morocco Kingdom, which has played an important part in most of the treasons of the Arab causes, has the boldness to offend the Islamic faith and to betray the Arab national cause by hosting an international Zionist congress at the time when the anniversary of the Palestine usurpation," Mr Ibrahim Hakim pointed out.

CAMEROON

Biya Addresses Nation on Trials, Future

AB171245 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 17 May 84

[Address to the nation by President Paul Biya in Yaounde — live]

[Text] Fellow countrymen and women: On 6 April 1984 a few hundred misguided soldiers, oblivious of their duty to their country, tried to overthrow the republican government and take power. The rebellion against the legitimate power has been viewed by each of you as a threat to Cameroon's unity, and a crime against the president, whom you democratically elected. The Cameroonian people overcame the mutineers, thus demonstrating their desire to live, think, and act in a free and united country.

Thanks to the valiant and courageous Army intervention, the mutiny was crushed. The Army did its duty, all its duty, and only its duty. It showed with distinction that it placed its duty to the republic above all other considerations. Now it has gone back to its peace mission.

Those who resorted to arms in disregard of law and honor have been overcome and arrested. They have just been tried by our country's justice and condemned without softness or hatred. The law — only the law — was applied to all.

For the real convicts, the punishment is commensurate with their crimes against the nation. The less guilty ones— those who allowed themselves to be led into that action without understanding the extent of the harm they were going to cause— will now begin a period of remorse, and tomorrow a period of redemption, without ever forgetting these dark hours. All measures have been taken so Cameroon will never again go through the dark period. Now we must resolutely turn to the future.

To you all, fellow countrymen and countrywomen, I reiterate my determination to lead the country firmly down the path of progress and national unity, without failing in the face of duty a single day, or yielding to foreign pressure. To Cameroon's friendly neighboring countries, I will repeat that we will never accept the slightest interference in our internal affairs, and that we will not allow a single Cameroonian — be he a living vestige of the past — to oppose his million compatriots who are working toward the harmony and development of the country.

A great destiny awaits the Republic of Cameroon. To reach it, tremendous work must be accomplished. It requires everyone to place the national interest above everything, and to relentlessly ask himself what he must do for Cameroon instead of expecting Cameroon to do something for him. Why are we Cameroonians? Why are we proud to be Cameroonians? What kind of Cameroon must we foster for our children? These are questions each of us must answer. On my part, I am determined to do what I must, so male and female Cameroonians will have equal rights and duties, live happily, and work peacefully in a united, strong, and prosperous Cameroon.

Fellow Cameroonians, I trust you. You can count on me.

Officials Replaced in Wake of Coup Bid

AB161103 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Yaounde, May 16 (AFP) — President Paul Biya of Cameroon has made major changes at the top of several state or para-statal enterprises, the daily *CAMEROON TRIBUNE* reported today.

Some of the cooperation heads replaced yesterday were accused in connection with the April 6 coup attempt in the West African state and arrested in the course of subsequent investigations.

Among these were the managing director of the National Rural Development Fund, Issa Adoum; the chairman of the National Airline, Amadou Bello; and the director of the Basic Products Sales Office, Bobo Hamatoucour.

They were all replaced yesterday.

Mr Issa Adoum was identified by the authorities as the leading civilian involved in the putsch bid and, according to unofficial reports, was among 35 people sentenced to death and executed on May 1.

BENIN

Cuban Party Delegation Arrives for Visit

AB172055 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpt] A delegation of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] arrived in Cotonou this morning. The head of the delegation, Comrade (Aida Mirabal), who is a civil servant at the Department of Revolutionary Orientation of the PCC Central Committee, told our reporter Claude da Silva about the purpose of the delegation's visit to our country:

[Begin recording] [(Mirabal) in Spanish fading into French translation] I am in Benin within the framework of an ideological exchange between the PCC and the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin [PRBP].

[Da Silva] During your stay, you are scheduled to meet PRPB and state officials to discuss ways to strengthen the cooperation between our two parties and our two revolutions. What particular field do you intend to lay emphasis on in order to further develop the relations between our two countries and our two revolutions?

[(Mirabal)] Our two parties are brotherly parties. We are fighting for the same objectives. This meeting will enable us to further unite ourselves and develop the fraternal relations existing between the parties, the people and between Comrade Mathieu Kerekou and Fidel Castro. [end recording]

GAMBIA

President Orders Release of Six Dissidents

AB171834 Paris AFP in English 1340 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Banjul, May 17 (AFP) — Six people belonging to the clandestine Movement for Independence and Justice in the Gambia have been released after five months in detention on the orders of head of state Sir Dawda Jawara, an official source said here today.

The six, teacher Fam Sar and his wife, Ami Sar, a health inspector, teachers Adama Ba and Mamadou Bary, sociologist Khalifa Sal and hotel employee Luc Sambu, were found guilty by a Banjul court of forming an illegal association and distributing undercover publications since 1970.

They were arrested under the state of emergency regulations in force in the Gambia since the abortive coup against Sir Dawda in July 1980, and the human rights organisation Amnesty International has pressed for their release.

Five police officers and a civilian are still detained under the emergency regulations.

GHANA

Central Bank Still Holds Old Naira Notes

AB171600 Accra THE GHANAIAN TIMES in English 12 May 84 pp 1, 3

[By Albert Armah]

[Text] The Bank of Ghana explained yesterday that all the Nigerian currency notes deposited with it by travellers at the airport before the Federal Government's demonitization of the naira were held in trust for their owners, not being convertible currency.

The bank is therefore not bound to pay back such deposits in the new notes now legal tender after the changing exercise which ended last Sunday.

An authoritative source close to the bank explained in an interview [that] depositing foreign money with the Central Bank is in line with standing regulations which enjoin the bank to safeguard the economic interest of the state by discouraging currency trafficking.

The source said the bank was not able to change the naira notes it had in its possession because of the closure of the borders during the exercise.

In any case, the source argued, it was the responsibility of the travellers to have collected back their money, during the period of the currency change-over, to exchange them for new ones.

"If anything at all they would be paid back in the same old notes."

It could, however not tell how much naira the bank was holding in trust for travellers and businessmen.

Two Charged With Divulging Classified Information

AB171719 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] The Public Tribunal today begun trying two men on charges of acting with intent to sabotage the country's economy. They are Samuel Amu Okai, a purchasing officer of the Produce Buying Company [PBC] of the Ghana Cocoa Board, and Wauy Kobina Odoom, an employee of New Line Publishing Agency.

Samuel Okai is alleged to have divulged classified information on Ghana's cocoa purchases to Kobina Odoom, who had in effect passed this on to sources in London. According to the prosecution, in February this year, there were reports that some officials of the PBC had leaked statistical figures on cocoa and coffee purchases in the country to a group of free-lance journalists in the UK. Unauthorized release of such figures caused prices of cocoa to fall on the world market.

GUINEA

CMRN Concerned About Ravages of Drought

AB171729 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 17 May 84

[Communique of the Military Committee for National Redress]

[Text] The Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN], which is worried about the anarchic exploitation of the country's forests, resulting in the destruction of the environment, draws the attention of the people to the following:

1. The catastrophic havoc of drought, which is becoming increasingly severe with its evil consequences, such as water shortages, manifest deficiency in agricultural production, famine, malnutrition, decrease in the number of cattle and so on;

2. The special case of Macenta Region where the great forest reserve, convering about 120,000 hectares, is suffering from excessive grubbing for the planting of bananas, coffee, and cocoa.

The CMRN calls on the regional authorities to immediately stop all exploitations by cooperatives, as well as grubbing by individuals, in the forest reserves. A new forestry regulation now being studied will soon be promulgated and will set the conditions for the exploitation of our forests, which will be beneficial to our country and safeguard our generally fragile tropical ecological systems.

Signed: the Military Committee for National Redress

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Reportedly Met Cuban Minister

AB171430 Paris AFP in French 1343 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Abidjan, 17 May (AFP) — Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who arrived in Bamako on Wednesday morning from Abidjan, is reported to have held talks on Tuesday in the Ivorian capital with Felix Houphouet-Boigny, head of state, according to generally informed sources.

The Cuban minister, who arrived here from Brazzaville, was also received at dinner by his Ivorian counterpart, Simeon Ake. Some diplomats from Spanish-speaking countries resident in Abidjan were invited.

No official information was given on this visit, which, according to some sources, is considered by the Ivorian authorities as a technical stopover, but which, in the opinion of observers, evidently provided the occasion for discussions on political matters. The Ivorian press did not mention the presence of the Cuban minister in Abidjan.

It can be said, according to these same sources in Abidjan, that the situation prevailing in Southern Africa, after the failure of the Lusaka conference on Namibia, was extensively discussed by the Cuban minister and his Ivorian interlocutors.

NIGERIA

United Kingdom Urged To Halt Botha Visit

AB162058 Dakar PANA in English 1835 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Lagos, 16 May (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria today in Lagos urged the British Government to halt the proposed visit to Britain by the South African Prime Minister, Mr Pieter Botha, scheduled for next month.

A statement by the Ministry of External Affairs said that the government had studied very carefully the reasons advanced by the British Government for the visit, and that it was not convinced that the visit was worthwhile.

The Federal Military Government, the statement said, was of the opinion that the reasons were not sufficient to justify the damage that would be inflicted on the anti-apartheid struggle and on the Commonwealth.

It said that contrary to expectations, the British Government had not taken any decisive step to dissuade the British rugby team from undertaking its proposed tour of South Africa. It would, therefore, appear that the invitation to the racist South African prime minister and the proposed tour to South Africa by the British rugby team are part of a coordinated policy to give comfort to apartheid, the statement said.

It further said that the Federal Military Government had sent representations to the British prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, urging her to reconsider the decision on the visit.

National Group Condemns Visit

AB171946 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] The Federal Government has sent a strong representation to Britain in connection with next month's visit to London by the racist South African prime minister, Pieter Botha.

Meanwhile, the National Committee Against Apartheid, NACAA, has also condemned the proposed visit. A statement issued by the committee described the move as racist and hypocritical. It commended Mike (Towe), the executive secretary of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement, for opposing the visit. The NACAA called on other anti-apartheid bodies and groups to condemn the act by protesting to British missions in their respective countries.

Vessel, Crew Detained for Illegal Bunkering

AB171745 Lagos NAN in English 1605 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Lagos, May 17 (NAN) — A vessel, *M/T Caspian*, has been arrested by the Nigerian Navy for alleged illegal bunkering at a prohibited jetty, and failure to observe compulsory pilotage designed to check and control movement of vessels.

A statement from the Office of the Minister of Petroleum and Energy, today said that four members of the vessel's cre • without working premits have been handed over the the police and immigration departments for interrogation. The statement did not, however, give an indication as to when the vessel was arrested, or the nationality of the arrested crew.

Meanwhile, a court judgement has been given in Athens in favour of Nigeria over the ownership of gas oil illegally lifted from the country in September 1983 by a Greek ship, *M.V. Trans*. According to the statement, the ship lifted about 2,300 tonnes of gas oil from Port Harcourt. The judgement of the Greek court was received in Lagos last month, the statement said.

Jimeta Disturbances Tribunal Sworn In
AB171746 Lagos NAN in English 1623 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Lagos, May 17 (NAN) — Members of the Jimeta Disturbances Tribunal of Inquiry were sworn in today in Lagos by the chief justice of the federation, Mr Justice George Sowemimo.

The tribunal, headed by a Supreme Court judge, Mr. Justice Muhammadu Uwais, comprises Prof Olatunde Oloko, Alhaji Tanko Sabo, and Alhaji Han Du Alkqli as members, and has Dr G.A. Adeosun as the secretary.

Speaking on the occasion Mr Justice Sowemimo urged the tribunal to discharge its duties without fear or favour. He said that the inquiry was a continuation of investigations into the Maitatsine riots and expressed the hope that the tribunal would make recommendations for a lasting solution to the problem. The tribunal is to determine whether any person or persons, by conduct or negligence, caused or contributed to the outbreak of the disturbances.

The tribunal is also to recommend measures to be taken against any such person or persons. It is also to identify the political, social, economic, and other problems which gave rise to religious disturbances in parts of the country. The tribunal is also to ascertain whether any person or persons who are not citizens of Nigeria, encouraged, contributed to or participated in the disturbances.

The tribunal was set up following the outbreak of religious disturbances in the Jimeta area of Yola, Gongola, between February and March this year, in which many lives were lost.

Bauchi Students Say School Conditions Unrealistic
AB172005 Lagos NAN in English 1731 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Bauchi, May 17 (NAN) — The president on the Student Union of the Federal University of Technology Bauchi, Alhaji Bashir Adekola, today described the twenty-four hours deadline given to the students of the institution to return to campus as "unrealistic."

The president told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that students of the institution came from various states of the country, and that it would be impossible to expect them to return to Bauchi and resume classes within twenty-four hours. He said the Student Union Executive Council has urged the university senate to extend the date of resumption of lectures to Monday May 21.

Alhaji Bashir said if the university authority maintained that it would rusticate all students who had failed to register with the university by yesterday, it would end up expelling more than two-thirds of the students population.

When contacted, the assistant registrar for public relations, Mr Andy Iheme, told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that the exact number of students who would be rusticated was not yet known because the university had not yet established the number of students who had registered as directed.

The authorities of the university had on Tuesday given the students 24 hrs to return to campus and register afresh for their courses, failing which they would be rusticated. The university was closed down last month by the senate when the students boycotted classes in protest against introduction of fees in schools.

Gulf War, Conflicts Caused by Arab Disarray
AB171732 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 17 May 84

[Commentary by Frank Eguana]

[Text] The Arabs are quick to point out that they are a people of common nationality though of different states, and that there is a unifying bond in Islam, which provides them a common culture and therefore a way of life.

They have also the impulsive and instant knack of running round to ward off any nation outside their territory that crosses sword against any member unit of their nation. However, it is paradoxical to observe that when a common enemy is out of sight, instead of closing their ranks for more meaningful, collective, and individual survival and development, they resort to belligerency and internecine wars among themselves. (?War was started between) the State of Israel and the Arab world; it is Libyans versus the Egyptians, and acrimony between the Egyptians and the rest of the Arab states and so on.

If common nationality and cultural affinity have any advantages, certainly they have ironically eluded of the Arabs. A recent intelligence report notes that more than 30 countries are now dishing out deadly weapons to the two sides in the Gulf war.

It is not surprising that the two superpowers, who make claims to charity and benevolence toward the peoples of developing world, are using their allies to channel supplies to the embattling states? The two states in the Gulf, one Persian and one Arab — Iran and Iraq — should learn the bitter truth: and the truth is that the ultimate beneficiaries in the Gulf war are the arms manufacturers.

All the wasteful expenditures of the war find their way into the coffers of the suppliers of the deadly arsenals, and there can be

no going back to their promptings to the warring factions to continue this senseless struggle. While those who happily supply the lethal weapons for selfish ends bounce in apparent affluence, social life is grinding to a halt in Iran and Iraq as their oil wealth are frittered away in the pursuit of bloated ego, at the expense of development and provisions of social services for the comfort of their peoples.

With both sides committing as much as $10 billion annually to the war that has raged for 4 years, it is certain that at that rate the countries will soon come to greater grief when they have exhausted their foreign resources and mortgaged their mineral wealth to pay off the staggering war debts, which are now accumulating to the discomfort of many reasonable but subjugated voices in these countries. If Iran and Iraq are obstinate to accept a negotiated settlement of the dispute because of their seeming capability of underwriting the cost, at least it should have occurred to them to put other things into perspective. Considering that the pendulum of the war swings forwards and backwards on both sides with enormous waste of human lives, one would think reason will prevail and that in the spirit of their professed Islam, which has peace as its central theme, their minds should have become mellowed, giving way to ceaseless overtures for negotiating by well-meaning organizations.

It would appear also that because of the covert involvement of the superpowers in the conflict, the United Nations has not made its impact effectively felt in the bid to end the conflict. It is obvious that the Arab League and the Islamic Conference have been making conscious efforts to end the war. It is also clear to everybody that Arab nations are in disarray, giving open support to the parties at war. This reason alone will abort all the efforts to resolve the conflict.

UPPER VOLTA

Third Republic Officials Trial To Resume 19 May

AB172050 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 May 84

["Communique" issued by the Ministry of Justice — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] The comrade minister of justice and keeper of the seals informs the combatant people of the democratic and popular revolution that the Bobo Dioulasso People's Revolutionary Tribunals will resume on Saturday, 19 May 1984 at 0800 with the docket: The State of Upper Volta Versus:

1. Diallo Amadou, minister of commerce in the Third Republic;
2. Souleman Gaoussou, businessman;
3. Nyankara Karim, accountant at the National Corporation for Cereals [OFNACER];
4. (Yulbare Bernard Jean-Baptiste), director general of Cimafrique [expansion unknown];
5. Bambara Clement, former director general of commerce and prices;
6. Bationo Bessolboue Innocent, former director of the DDIA, [expansion unknown]
7. Sonda Isaac, adviser on economic affairs;
8. Konate Kenedougou, adviser on economic affairs;
9. Kawaine Adama Jean-Baptiste;
10. Banse V. Alfred, former director general of the OFNACER.

The docket of the accused persons is constituted mainly of charges of misappropriation of public property, collusion and, other activities of illegal acquisition of wealth, which characterized the regime of the Third Republic.

Trade Links Discussed With Gabon

AB171830 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 May 84

[Excerpts] Upper Voltan and Gabonese experts have been meeting since this morning at the ONERAV [expansion unknown]. Up to 1800 this afternoon, the two sides will be exploring the possibility of establishing trade links between our two countries. Opening the meeting this morning in the presence of Captain Henri Zongo, the minister in charge of state companies, Comrade Justin Damo Barro, the minister of finance, stressed the importance of North-South cooperation.

In reply to the minister of finance's speech, the leader of the Gabonese delegation, Eitenne Moussirou, expressed his country's willingness to see relations between developing countries, which go to supplement North-South cooperation, grow in strength.

Communications Development Pact Signed With Canada

AB171832 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A draft agreement of understanding was signed today at the Ministry of Equipment and Communications between the Government of Canada, represented by its ambassador to Upper Volta, and the Government of the Republic of Upper Volta, represented by the minister of equipment and communications. This draft agreement concerns telecommunications development program in Upper Volta.

The general aim of this program is to support Upper Volta's development strategy by helping to take the country out of its landlocked situation, both externally and internally. But the specific aim of this program is to develop the utilization of the Panaftel [Pan-African Telecommunications Network] of Upper Volta, and to help the government to attain a reasonable level of autonomy in the operation, maintenance, and the management of its telecommunications infrastructure in order to increase the profitability of this sector.

This program, which costs $7.58 million, includes, first of all, the establishment a professional service by providing technical and administrative support; second, the provision of assistance in the cost of maintaining the network by creating a mechanism for purchase from Canada, and for assistance in the financing of recurrent expenditure; third, assistance in the gradual training of technicians, including the integration of Canadian equipment in the practical works program of the National School of Post and Telecommunications, as well as the training of instructors and heads of centers; fourth, assistance in the investment budget

of the Posts and Telecommunication Corporation by the reduction in recurrent expenditure and the development of networks; and finally, the coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of the program. The financial contribution of Canada in the program is an endowment of $7.58 million.

At the end of the signing ceremony, the two parties expressed happiness over the excellent cooperation between the two countries, and expressed hope that the present agreement will not be the last of its kind.

Foreign Policy, Cooperation Achievements Hailed
AB171728 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 May 84

[Jean Hubert Bazie commentary]

[Text] Inform each other to know each other better. This is the first step in the peoples' march toward one another. This statement, which the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] made in *ECHO DE LA REVOLUTION DEMOCRATIQUE ET POPULAIRE*, the new weekly paper launched by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, sums up the CNR's approach to international relations and accounts for the great number of top officials who have been visiting the president these past few days.

On 3 May, the Algerian minister of higher education and scientific research made a 4-day visit that resulted in the signing of a protocol aimed at strengthening cooperation between Algeria and Upper Volta in higher education and scientific research. Then the Malian minister of state for economy and planning visited the country on 9 May. He was followed by Guinean Prime Minister Diara Traore on 10 May, then by Kpotivi Tev Lacle, the Togolese minister of interior and members of the Togolese People's Rally Political Bureau.

On 11 and 12 May, the head of state received the Congolese minister of agriculture, the Angolan ambassador to our country, and General Saunier of the French Air Force. Just recently, he received Kassa-Mapsi, the Gabonese deputy prime minister, and is receiving another Gabonese delegation this evening led by the minister of industry and state enterprises.

The visit of these personalities is an honor to the CNR — whether they are from North Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, or southern Africa, whether they are Africans or Europeans. Such visits are evidence of continued dialogue and multipurposeexchanges. They demonstrate the desire of the 4 August Upper Volta and brotherly and friendly countries to better know one another, and especially the desire of the new Upper Volta to make known its requirements of genuine freedom and dignity within the framework of its deliberately courageous popular options.

Not very long ago, a Libyan envoy visiting the country could cause concern, while an Algerian could cause surprise, a Malian astonishment, and a French envoy disappointment. What once seemed uncommon — if not sacrilegeous — to hide bound and submissive minds, whose attitudes were dictated by cowardice and selfish interests, is well understood now and accepted as normal. This is an achivement. It is a victory of the revolution over rigid minds.

It is noteworthy, however, that the difference between at one time and now lies in the popular aspect of new norms. The CNR is thus strengthening itself through the development of its relations within the framework of regional, African, and international organizations. Those who thought they alone could make Upper Volta viable are now realizing painfully that their presence on the political stage is useless. Those present are living with the democratic and popular Upper Volta. They breathe the air of revolutionary dynamics. Those who ran away did not take the fatherland away with them, and they are witnessing with great distress their political agony every minute, every hour, every day.

Moving deliberately away from the [word indistinct] diplomacy, and in pursuance of its frank and unambiguous policy, the new Upper Volta, which has outlined its objectives, approaches, and problems in accordance with its revolutionary option. It does not fail to appeal to its neighbors when an urgent problem arises. This was the case when the country experienced a cement shortage during the implementation of various people's construction work. It makes it a point to count on its revolutionary friends who also rely on it. To those who still say not all problems have been solved, we will reply that there always will be problems; only the way they are solved will be different. They will be solved in a revolutionary manner with the joint efforts of all the people and in the general interest.

Upper Volta is not an island; Upper Voltans are not Robinson Crusoe. This is why an exchange of information to better know each other is necessary; because true, sincere, and courageous information is the first step in the victorious march of the peoples toward one another and toward better conditions.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Swapo's Nujoma in Luanda

MB171510 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 16 May 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received Sam Nujoma, president of SWAPO in Luanda today. The audience was attended by Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, secretary for external relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, and Alexandre Rodrigues Kito, minister of the interior.

Imperialistic Support for 'Bandits' Scored

MB151337 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 May 84

[Station Commentary: "Imperialism Has Its Hands Stained With Blood"]

[Text] The group working for South African terrorism, which is incapable of resisting the heavy blows inflicted upon it by our defense and (?security) forces, is once again resorting to the notorious weapon known as terrorism. The recent bomb attack in Huambo City, and the deaths of citizens and Cuban internationalists who have helped the People's Republic of Angola in its national reconstruction tasks is a good example of the terror being spread by such gangs, and reflects an attitude that explains the nature of a group of sellout bandits without scruples. The terrorists, who literally interpret the ideas they receive from their masters, are praised by those who think the Angolan people will one day agree to lose their independence.

It is in this context that the bandits find themselves (?equivocating daily). Everything that stands in the way of Angola's progress is possible for the stateless criminals, including the killing of children and elderly, whom they claim to be defending. The terrorism by the armed gangs is of the lowest level, but it is also inspiring to see how the armed wing of the Angolan people — the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] — combats the lackeys of imperialism with uncommon firmness. The attack on a residential building in Huambo City will mark yet another bloodbath.

Time is now running out at a dizzy rate for the criminals. The powers behind the Western propaganda machine can no longer conceal the progressive annihilation of the traitors, nor can it discuss the horror provoked by acts such as the one in Huambo, which proved [words indistinct] banditry. Combat against the bandits has been [word indistinct]. Actions to annihilate the bandits launched by FAPLA assume extraordinary importance with each passing day. Lately, the criminals have suffered enormous setbacks, to the extent that great differences have developed among the bandit leaders. It is not by accident that the friction between them is greater now than ever before. It is the indomitable struggle of the Angolan people that is causing these differences. In the bandits' headquarters, it is now known that time is running out for the adventurous policy.

Even the British conservative press, which traditionally praises the acts of the bandits, has now been obliged to expose the involvement of the CIA, and it emphasized a secret accord between the U.S. Administration and the South African Government, with the participation of UNITA, which is aimed at combining efforts for the destabilization of the People's Republic of Angola. *THE OBSERVER*, for instance, goes so far as to say that this accord was signed at the end of 1983, in a secret meeting attended by representatives from the Governments of the United States and South Africa, and ringleaders of puppet groups, who would receive greater military and financial aid in exchange for the destabilization of Angola. In addition, there is a the growing but zealous involvement of certain African regimes. It is worthy of note that the British press has begun to expose these accords. It is also noteworthy that the countries that have always supported banditry have completely withdrawn their aid.

It would be good if the hundreds of dead and wounded received some attention, not to mention the thousands that have been kidnapped. It would be good if the creators of anti-Angolan propaganda remembered once and for all that the climate of terror and instability and organized crime in some areas of the country is due to the open support the South African regime, with the complicity of other reactionary regimes, gives to the criminals.

The Angolan people would have eliminated the terrorists a long time ago. They have not yet managed to do so, because Pretoria and other regimes opposed to the people supply weapons, money, and men to support the puppets.

It is known that the imperialists resort to (?these tactics) when they want to bring about regressive changes in a country outside of their sphere of influence. Some will say that this is to try to justify its interest in the struggle which the Angolan people are carrying out against the terrorists. This is true, just as it is true that to spread the news of the struggle of our people against pure and simple terrorism is an obligation that rests on all those who support liberty and social progress. To pay homage to a people who have been at war for 23 years, and to condemn as often as necessary those responsible for the suffering of peaceful populations who fight for the rebuilding of the nation, is a task for those who want peace.

BOTSWANA

Masire Speaks to BDF Commissioning Ceremony

MB171318 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, has told officers of the Botswana Defense Force [BDF] that they should not ask their subordinates to enter areas of danger which the officers are not prepared to enter themselves.

Dr Masire was speaking this morning at a commissioning parade of the DBF officers at the Sir Seretse Khama barracks in Mogoditshane. The president explained further that BDF officers should lead by example and demonstrate to their subordinates that they are worthy of the ranks they hold. He said he was

confident that the 12-month training the officers had gone through had adequately prepared them for the responsibilities which lie ahead, and which they were just about to shoulder.

Dr Masire also stated that his government is committed to the establishment of a small but effective defense force, which is professionally oriented and which can be trusted to look after the security of this country and its citizens. He said the development of the BDF has therefore been geared to satisfy this important objective.

The president said further that the preservation of the integrity of the BDF should be the concern of all its members. He said the discipline and professional commitment which have become the hallmark of the force, need the protection of members of BDF. He said members of the force should refrain from doing anything which is likely to tarnish the image of the force.

President Masire said he was recently immensely impressed by the military precision which characterized the activities of the BDF at the national stadium on the occasion of the BDF Day. He said such military precision must have left an indelible impression on all those people who were privileged enough to watch the activities. Dr Masire said that, whilst he was aware that the BDF cannot publicize some of its activities on security grounds, exhibitions such as the one on BDF day should be encouraged. He said this would afford Batswana the opportunity to review and appreciate at first hand the progress that has been made and the extent of the investment in the force.

Referring to some shortages in the needs of the force, Dr Masire said this was not due to lack of commitment on the part of the government, but was primarily because of many competing demands for the limited financial resources.

Mmusi Cites Support of Democracy, Refugees

MB171010 Gaberone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 9 May 84 p 1

[Excerpts] The acting president, Mr Peter Mmusi, has said that the Botswana Democratic Party is totally committed to the social, political and economic well-being of the people of this country.

Addressing a political rally at New Naledi over the weekend, Mr Mmusi, who is also the minister of finance and development planning, told the rally that the BDP government adheres to the country's contitution of the public good.

He said that under the constitution the government had granted freedom of assembly, speech and movement, protection of their possessions, as well as protection from racial and ethnic discrimination.

The acting president said the government will continue to uphold national principles of multi-party democracy, and that consultations among the political parties and holding of general elections every five years were factual evidence of the outlined principles.

Mr Mmusi said that without these flexible and amiable conditions laid down by the party, the country would be in a state of chaos hence, tyranny, which the government abhores.

He appealed to Botswana of all walks of life to refrain from sectionalism, nepotism, and political bickerings and work as one entity in a bid to foster development activities as well as enhancing peaceful tranquility which the country needs at all cost.

The acting president made it clear to the audience that Botswana will continue to provide an assylum to geniune political refugees, but will not condone to the importation of arms into the country for purpose of attacking a neighbouring country.

MALAWI

President Comments on Regional Negotiations

MB111824 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] His excellency the life president said today that he was pleased that other countries in this region have now opted to follow policies of dialogue and contact and good neighborliness, which Malawi has consistently pursued in the conduct of international relations.

The life president said this at Sanjika Palace when he received letters of credence from the new Swiss ambassador to Malawi, Mr Richard Gaechter. The life president said he was gratified to note this development because he has always maintained that military confrontations or economic boycotts are not the best means for solving political problems.

He said the stability resulting from the peaceful negotiation of long-standing problems in this region would certainly make it possible for the countries to devote their resources to the economic and social development. The Ngwazi also noted similarities between Malawi and Switzerland, and said both countries attach great importance to the promotion of peace, human dignity, and noninterference in the affairs of other countries.

Presenting his letters of credence, Mr Gaechter described Malawi as a little haven of peace and quiet progress in a rather unruly world. He said Malawi had been able to stay out of major troubles afflicting the southern part of Africa, thereby providing its people with steady progress. Mr Gaechter said the peace agreements recently signed among some of Malawi's neighbors should have a beneficial effect on this country, which is so dependent for its import and export markets and also its lines of communications and its access to the sea on its neighbors. He said the restoration of peace in this region could only mean faster economic and social development of Malawi.

Somalia's Vice President Arrives On Visit

MB151818 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 May 84

[Text] Somalia's first vice president, Mr Mohammed Ali Samantar, arrived in the country today at the head of an eight-man-

powered delegation. Mr Samantar told newsmen on arrival in Blantyre that he has brought a message from President Siad Barre of Somalia to His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda. Mr Samantar, who is Somalia's defense minister, said that his country is facing a difficult situation in the Horn of Africa, and at this critical stage, it is in the interest of Somalia to explain this explosive situation to the leaders of other countries. He said his mission, which has already taken his delegation to Kenya, will also go to Lesotho, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, and Mozambique. Mr Samantar was met at Chileka Airport by the minister without portfolio, and adminstrative secretary of the Malawi Congress Party, Mr Robson Chirwa.

MOZAMBIQUE

Attack on Swazi Train at Goba Reported

MB171655 Mbabane Domestic Television Service in English 1630 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A Mozambican goods train ferrying Swazi sugar and molasses to Mozambique was derailed at Goba inside Mozambique last night when it was allegedly attacked by unknown armed bandits with heavy machine-gun fire. Although no further details were immediately available this afternoon, the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, the general manager of the Swaziland Sugar Association, Mr Derek Johnson, and the general manager of Swaziland Railways, Mr (Dan Slabbert), all confirmed the derailment. Unconfirmed reports, however, said that the train driver was seriously injured and was admitted to a hospital.

The gravity of the derailment, believed to have been carried out by unknown saboteurs, prompted the prime minister to order the commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, to investigate the matter personally. Mr Msibi was not in his office this afternoon, and sources at police headquarters said he had gone to Lomahasha, apparently on his way to Goba. The Mozambican ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Magaia, was not in his office either this afternoon, and further efforts to contact him were unsuccessful. The sources further said that rail traffic between Mozambique and South Africa had been halted since yesterday's attack on the Mozambique-bound train.

ANC Suspected

MB171336 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A Swazi goods train has been attacked and derailed inside Mozambique. It is reported that the train carrying Swazi sugar and molasses was attacked by gunfire near the Lomahasha border on its way to Maputo.

Sources say Swazi authorities are investigating the possibility that the attack was carried out by ANC groups allegedly still operating in the border areas of Mozambique. They say the attack was possibly in retaliation for the Swazi Government's crackdown on the ANC in the country. However, there has been no official comment from Swaziland on the incident.

Maputo Denies ANC Involvement

MB180557 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] The prime minister of Swaziland, Prince Bhekimpi, has confirmed in Mbabane that a Mozambican goods train traveling from Swaziland to Maputo was derailed shortly after crossing the border into Mozambique. Prince Bhekimpi has sent the commissioner of police in Swaziland to Mozambique to carry out an on-the-spot investigation of the incident.

It was reported earlier that the train carrying sugar and molasses had been attacked by a group of armed men. The train driver and his assistant were wounded in the attack.

The earlier report also stated that ANC members had been responsible for the attack. Groups of armed ANC are reported to be operating in the border areas of Mozambique. However, ANC involvement in the attack on the train has been denied by sources in Maputo.

Machel Sends Message to Malawi's Banda

MB171020 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has sent birthday congratulations to his Malawian counterpart, Hastings Kamuzu Banda. In his message, the Mozambican head of state reiterated the desire to strengthen further the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two states for the consolidation of the political independence of the two countries, and for their economic independence.

Veloso Returns from RSA, Comments on Talks

MB171250 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Mozambique considers that application of the terms of the Nkomati Accord with South Africa is moving ahead positively, despite some problems that have arisen. The view was expressed in Maputo by the minister in the President's Office for Economic Affairs, Major General Jacinto Veloso, who returned from a 1-day visit to Cape Town last night.

Gen Veloso and his delegation had discussions there with the South African team, led by Foreign Minister Roelof Botha, to make an assessment of how the nonaggression accord was being put into practice. Under the terms of the agreement signed 2 months ago, each side is committed to preventing its territory from being used as a springboard for acts of violence against the other. They also agreed not to use the territory of other neighboring states for this purpose.

Gen Veloso said that he was received in Cape Town yesterday by South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha, who reaffirmed his government's commitment of these clauses in the Nkomati Accord. Gen Veloso said Mr Botha told him that the South African Government was against armed groups destabilizing Mozambique from the territory of South Africa or any other

country. Before the Nkomati Accord, South African authorities provided camps, training, arms, and ammunition for terrorists operating against Mozambique.

Gen Veloso was accompanied in Cape Town by senior officials from the ports, railroads, and labor sectors in Mozambique where they had talks with the South African counterparts. Among the subjects discussed were Mozambican migrant workers in South Africa and South Africa's use of the Port of Maputo. The port was built in the Portuguese colonial era to serve South Africa, especially the Transvaal Province, but South African trade dropped off sharply in the years following Mozambique's independence. It was agreed yesterday that Maputo would once again be considered as a natural port for South Africa.

RSA Businessmen Meet With Veloso, Leave
MB171830 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A group of South African businessmen left Maputo to return home this afternoon after meeting Economic Affairs Minister Jacinto Veloso.

Addressing the group, General Veloso said that with the signing of the Nkomati Accord, there are good perspectives for cooperation between the two countries. He said Mozambique is ready to guarantee the businessmen's future investments in Mozambique. Gen Veloso told the businessmen that ports, industry, agriculture, and railways were the areas that needed rehabilitation. He went on to say that after his meeting with the South African prime minister yesterday, he was confident of the good understanding between the two countries.

After meeting Gen Veloso, the group took stock of discussions they had had in the past 2 days. Both sides were optimistic about the prospects for good results in the short term. After thanking the Mozambican Chamber of Commerce for the invitation, the group extended an invitation to the Mozambican Chamber of Commerce to visit South Africa. The invitation was immediately accepted.

This morning the South Africans visited the tire manufacturing factory, Mabor.

Two Armed Bandit Camps Destroyed in Sofala
MB180710 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] In the district of Buzi in Sofala Province, two armed bandit camps were recently destroyed in a joint operation involving the residents of Mamba and Mecuje areas, and the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM. A number of families who had been abducted by the armed bandits were released during this operation. Goods that had been stolen from residents were recovered, and an assortment of war materiel was captured.

The intensified operations against the armed bandits in Buzi result from greater involvement by residents in political and military self-defense training. Workers in various sectors of activity, including workers of agricultural cooperatives, and the residents are taking part in training for self-defense as part of the campaign to make 1984 the year of the physical liquidation of the armed bandits throughout the country.

Rebelo Says Grass Roots Campaign Begins Well
MB171338 Maputo in English to South Africa 1100 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] A campaign aimed at strengthening grass roots political organizations among the nearly 1 million residents of Maputo City has got off to an excellent start. This was said in the Mozambican capital yesterday by Major General Jorge Rebelo, the first secretary of the Frelimo Party in the city. The campaign was started last week and one of the key objectives was to strengthen the city's defense and vigilance against infiltration and attacks by terrorist gunmen. Maputo City residents are organized in thousands of blocks, with selected block leaders, but many have been inactive.

At yesterday's meeting, Gen Rebelo spoke to party activists who have been working in [word indistinct] over the last weeks to ensure that every block has a functioning leadership which acts correctly. Gen Rebelo expressed satisfaction at the progress which has been made so far and said that by 27 May, every city block should have an elected head, a deputy, a women's representative, and vigilance organizers. Team leaders at the meeting presented reports on the work they have been doing and some of the problems they have encountered. These included arbitrary actions by a few heads of blocks. One head had organized an illegal search in a block that was not his own, while another had collected money from residents to organize a big neighborhood party. The party was never held and the money was not returned. Gen Rebelo said that in the first of these cases, the man concerned was not fit to be head of a block, and that the second case should be immediately referred to the police for investigation.

Briefs

FRG Aid to Mozambique — The FRG Government has granted a number of credit lines to Mozambique amounting to DM 45 million, about 640 thousand contos. The sum is designed for development projects in ports, railroads, telecommunications, and food reserves. The FRG has also granted aid worth DM 1.5 million for the acquisition of Mercedes-Benz spare parts. An agreement to this effect was signed by Antonio Subana, secretary of state for international cooperation, and Hasso Buchrucker, the FRG's ambassador to Mozambique. [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 17 May 84 MB]

NAMIBIA

Party Leader Calls for Banning SWAPO
MB171636 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1630 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Windhoek, May 17, SAPA — The leader of the Herstigte Nasionale Party in SWA/Namibia, Mr Sarel Becker, said it was

time SWAPO was banned because of its terrorism. In a media release issued in Windhoek today, Mr Becker commented on last night's bomb blast in Windhoek, in which two South Africans were injured.

He also reproached the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, and the privately initiated Multi-Party Conference on the future of the territory for having undertaken talks with SWAPO.

"The time has arrived for SWAPO to be declared an illegal organisation," he said.

SWAPO Founder Views Conditions for Talks With RSA

NC171927 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Paris, May 17 (AFP) — Herman Toivo ja Toivo, founder of the Namibian nationalist movement SWAPO, today spelled out his conditions for further talks with South Africa on Namibian independence, following the failure of last week's meeting in the Zambian capital of Lusaka.

He said SWAPO (Southwest Africa People's Organisation) was willing to meet South Africa under the auspices of the United Nations, either in Geneva or New York, but only if the South Africans were serious about discussing the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 435.

"Otherwise it is a waste of time," added Mr. Toivo ja Toivo, who was interviewed by AFP during a stopover here on his way to London. "We are not prepared to go back to Lusaka for a circus such as the one we had."

Resolution 435 allows for a ceasefire in South African-ruled Namibia and for independence to be brought about following U.N.-supervised elections.

movement, he must realize: It is time for him to go.

Mr. Toivo ja Toivo accused South Africa of "hiding behind the so-called Multi-Party Conference", a group of six internal Namibian parties which have South African backing, at the Lusaka talks.

He added that British and American support for South Africa was also partly to blame for the "total failure" of the talks.

Mr. Toivo ja Toivo, freed on March 1 from South Africa's Robben Island prison after 18 years, is a member of SWAPO's Politburo, but has no actual title at the moment. Sam Nujoma is president of the movement.

After Mr. Toivo ja Toivo's release, South Africa granted him a pass allowing him to travel, but he wants to return to "his country", Namibia, and is trying to work out whether his presence there would be beneficial to SWAPO.

He condemned "all those collaborating with South Africa, whether black or white", and stressed his disapproval of the European countries who have invited South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha to visit them during a tour early next month.

Mr. Botha is currently scheduled to go to Britain, West Germany, Portugal, Switzerland, Belgium, and France.

in himself to repair some of the damage he has already done to the Returning to the subject of the Lusaka conference, the SWAPO leader said South Africa's administrator-general for Namibia, Willie van Niekerk , should not have raised the issue of linking Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola.

This condition is demanded by South Africa and has the support of the United States.

Mr. Toivo ja Toivo pointed out that the United Nations had been calling for Namibian independence since 1946, "a long time before the arrival of Cuban troops".

He admitted that the agreement signed between Angola and South Africa in February under which Pretoria agreed to a "disengagement" of its troops from southern Angola had weakened SWAPO's position, since the movement used this area as its rear base.

However, he pointed out that SWAPO's independence struggle had started prior to Angolan independence.

Mr. Toivo ja Toivo is going to London to take part in a two-day anti-apartheid conference organised by the International Defence and Aid Fund for South African and Namibian prisoners.

SOUTH AFRICA

Delegations Discuss Nkomati Accord in Cape Town

MB171010 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Delegations from Mozambique and the Government of South Africa, which met in Cape Town yesterday, noted that the implementation of the Nkomati Accord was progressing, despite some persistent problems.

Jacinto Veloso, the minister in the Office of the President for Economic Affairs, who headed the Mozambican delegation, said it was a regular meeting to evaluate the degree to which the Nkomati Accord has been observed and implemented. The South African delegation to the talks was headed by Roelof Botha, South African foreign minister.

Jacinto Veloso was received by Pieter Botha, South African prime minister, who reaffirmed that his government was opposed to armed groups destabilizing Mozambique from South Africa.

The Mozambican delegation, which included high-ranking officials from various sectors such as railways and harbor, and the labor sectors, held separate talks with officials of the South African delegation in various economic fields. During yesterday's

talks in Cape Town, it was agreed that Maputo Port will be used by South Africa as a natural South African port, that is by granting concessions [concessao] for facilities and premiums.

Engineer Ferreira Mendes, who is part of the Mozambican delegation, held talks with his South African counterpart. According to Mendes, cooperation between the Mozambique and South African railroads was also discussed. Manpower was another issue debated during the talks. The director general of (Chiranza) in the State Secretariat for Labor discussed with South African authorities the issue of our country's immigrants in South Africa. He was received by Du Plessis, the South African minister of manpower utilization.

Justice Minister Halts Debate on SWAPO Prisoners

MB171204 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1031 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] House of Assembly, May 17, SAPA — Debate on the case of the Mariental prisoners, whose application for legal relief was recently withdrawn, was today interrupted by the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, who said it was a security matter which would have to be cleared before debate could continue.

Reference to the Mariental prisoners, who were caught by the South African Defence Force during a raid into Angola in 1978, was made by the P.F.P. spokesman on justice, Mr Dave Dalling. Before he was stopped by the minister, Mr Dalling said South Africa was not legally at war with Angola. This meant the S.A.D.F. had abducted the prisoners — who included SWAPO terrorists, Angolan citizens, women, children, and "hangers-on. And abduction is an act we have publicly deplored in international forums."

Mr Dalling said although he could understand internees of this type could be used as "bargaining power" in prisoner swaps and other initiatives, he asked the minister "is six years reasonable?"

The prisoners finally sought legal relief and put themselves "at the mercy of the South African high court." Mr Dalling was then referring to the fact that Mr Coetsee had withdrawn the prisoners' application, when the minister interrupted him, saying the case was a matter of security and needed to be cleared before any debate could continue.

Mr Dalling hesitated, then asked Mr Coetsee whether he would give his assurance to discuss the matter once it was cleared. Having obtained Mr Coetsee's assurance, Mr Dalling passed on to continue with the following part of his speech (?on) another subject.

Malan Warns of Illusions About Threat to RSA

MB171507 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1456 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] House of Assembly, May 17, SAPA — There should be no illusions about the threat against the republic and the financial demands it would place on South Africans, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today.

Speaking in committee on the defence vote, he said the continued success of the country's present peace initiatives would not lessen the responsibility of the S.A.D.F. [South African Defence Force] to ensure the maintenance of peace.

"You have to keep in mind that the Russian policy of expansionism will also form a threat to the whole region in which we live, and this will not make it possible to lighten our load but may even place a greater burden on us in the future."

Numerous opinions had recently been voiced by students of communism concerning the priority the republic enjoyed in Russian strategic planning with a view to world domination.

"In general, all of them have agreed that the republic occupies a prominent role in the sequence for take-over in comparison to the other areas where communists are at work.

"Let us have no illusions about this."

General Malan gave the assurance that service obligations would be determined by the threat and it would be adapted accordingly.

The committee would also make an in-depth study of the S.A.D.F. and aspects related to Armscor. [Armaments Development Corporation]

"The committee must determine how these organisations must be adapted to meet the challenges in future. These are challenges arising from the Republic's difficult economic realities, changes in security situation, the new constitutional dispenation, and so forth. These problems must be solved in the most economic and effective way."

This committee, General Malan said, would be chaired by the chief of the Army, General Jannie Geldenhuys, who would be assisted by the chairman of Armscor, Commandant Marais and, from the private sector, Dr Wim de Villiers. General Holtzhauzen would be the other defence force member. The committee would also have the power to co-opt additional members and specific guidelines for investigation had been given it. This instruction could also be extended, General Malan said.

"From time to time I receive constructive proposals and comment about defence matters from persons in the private sector. So, for instance, I received informative proposals from a group of our senior citizens. This group has a keen interest in defence matters and have identified themselves positively with the S.A.D.F.

"To them I wish to convey my sincere thanks for their interest, and assure them that I have taken thorough notice of their proposals and opinions. The Geldenhuys Committee has also been instructed to look at some of their proposals."

Malan Views Need for Regional Defense System

MB171539 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1531 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] House of Assembly, May 17, SAPA — It was possible still greater priority would have to be given to the republic's new

regional defence system, which provided a "blanket" of security for the country, in response to the African National Congress [ANC] threat to the interior, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today.

Speaking in the debate on his portfolio, he said defence priorities would have to change as the situation changed.

"It is therefore possible that we will have to give still greater priority to our new regional defence system.

"This system, which is to provide blanket coverage over the whole country, will undoubtedly play an important role in the future in the combating of the A.N.C's terrorist onslaught."

Explosion Causes Slight Damage to Railroad

MB180553 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] There was an explosion on the railway line between Grassmere and Lawley, south of Johannesburg, shortly before 0300 this morning. The deputy commissioner of the Railways Police, Major General Robbie Robbertze, says only slight damage was caused to the line. Commuters will be transported past the damaged section by bus. Expectations are that the line will be reopened to traffic at 0900.

Service Back to Normal

MB180945 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 18 May 84

[Text] Repair work on the damaged railway lines at Lawley, just south of Johannesburg, was completed by 0900 this morning and train services are back to normal. Major General Robbertze, deputy commissioner of Railways Police, said there were two explosions within minutes of each other early this morning. The cause of the explosions has not yet been established. No one was injured.

Servicemen To Get 12 Percent Pay Hike

MB171651 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] National servicemen and members of the Citizen Force and Commandos are to receive a 12 percent pay rise. This has been announced in the House of Assembly by the minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, during discussion of his budget vote. The increase will be effective retrospectively from 1 January, and arrangements are being made for back pay for members of these units. Referring to the present peace initiatives, Gen Malan said there should be no unrealistic expectation, such as a change in the callup system. The South African servicemen did not face longer periods of service than their counterparts in countries in similar circumstances. Thought could be given to a reduction in national service only in the event of a marked scaling down of the threat against South Africa.

NAN Correspondent Recounts Visit to Matabeleland

AB171145 Lagos NAN in English 1128 GMT 17 May 84

[NAN Feature: "Crackdown on Zimbabwean Dissidents," by NAN correspondent in Harare, Adewale Fatona]

[Text] As in most other countries where governments have had to crush internal rebellion, the true accounts of the on-going military campaign against dissidents in Zimbabwe's southern Matabeleland Province will probably remain secret for a very long time.

Despite an official probe into strong allegations of Army brutality during last year's crackdown in northern Matabeleland, taking stock of civilian casualities had become an almost impossible task. And apart from the alleged excesses of the Army, the nature of dissident activities in the crisis-torn region is itself becoming unclear.

Not even after over 40 foreign journalists had a two-day tour of southern Matabeleland, where the government has maintained a military siege since February, could anybody prove the extent of the brutality against innocent civilians.

Both the bishops and the Roman Catholic Peace and Justice Commission submitted confidential dossiers of the Army excesses to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe last month, an exercise which further fueled the controversy between the church and the state.

The foreign journalists' trip took off from Bulawayo amid growing but unconfirmed reports that the Army had been destroying evidence of the alleged atrocities by exhuming bodies from mass graves and mine shafts, dousing them with petrol and burning them. An unknown number of civilian victims of torture were also said to have been removed from mission hospitals and clinics to military hospitals, where it would be impossible for the journalists to see them.

After a four-hour screening exercise to fish out certain South African correspondents not allowed to enter Zimbabwe, the journalists, including this writer, set out south-westward in a military convoy led by the Army commander, Lt Gen Rex Nhongo. They drove for about 500 kilometres partly on dirt roads, and partly on bush tracks until they got lost in a river bed not far from the Botswana border. They did not see any signs of human life until they had travelled about 350 kilometres in the Matabeleland Province.

The province, which is about 15,000 square kilometres, has a population of about half-a-million and is among the areas most hit by the three-year drought in the country. There is a grim struggle for survival among the mostly peasant population, who rely on government's emergency food relief program and those of church and international relief agencies. In many areas, the soil has been reduced to mere dust, and cattle, the most valued possession of the peasants, have had to be moved for up to 100 kilometres to graze.

Between 6,000 and 7,000 of the national Army's best-trained and equipped troops have been deployed to hunt down 40 or 50

dissidents whom Lt Gen Nhongo told the journalists were known to be operating in the area. Even for the bandits, as they are called in government circles, survival within the vast terrain of mainly thorn scrubs is not a mean task.

The journalists were driven back to Bulawayo from Brunapeg, close to the Botswana border, without visiting any of the places they had listed and submitted to the Army commander, and without talking to any civilian.

As one Zimbabwean journalist commented on the harshness of nature in the area: "We can as well give this place to Joshua Nkomo (Prime Minister Mugabe's political rival) and let him rule over the woods and sand beds."

Before the journalists set out on the second day, Lt Gen Nhongo asked the Harare correspondent of the London *TIMES*, Peter Godwin, also a Zimbabwean, to lead the team. Godwin's articles on the military campaign have made him very unpopular with the government, to say the least, and before the journalists boarded the army bus, the general said: "Peter Godwin is the man to lead us today. He is a former Selous scout (member of Ian Smith's Rhodesian security police). He knows the route."

The first place we visited was the Matopos mission, which runs a clinic for people in the area. There evidence began to unfold. The nurse in charge, Mrs Selina Moyo, told us that she had treated many patients who had been beaten brutally by members of the security forces during the first week of the curfew. Many of the victims were women who had their buttocks burnt, said Mrs Moyo, who also revealed that she treated a few patients who had reportedly been beaten up by dissidents.

Photographers from the security branch of the police took shots of everybody giving information, while men of the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) scrutinized notes being taken by the journalists.

We proceeded to Mtshabezi mission hospital, 85 kilometers south of Bulawayo, where an American doctor, Devee Boyd, disclosed that he had treated 125 victims of torture by soldiers since February, adding that some of the wounds were so serious that he had to carry out skin-grafting operations. "I have treated 15 cases of rape committed by soldiers, and some of my patients have been removed from the hospital against my judgement. Even some of my staff have been harassed. I have reported the situation to the prime minister," he said.

Forty kilometres south of Mtshabezi is the Minda mission, run by the Marianhill Brotherhood. There, Father Gabriel Kleinlercher had gathered about 10 eye-witnesses led by a chief, Bakwayi Phileas Sithole of Donkwe Donkwe District, where six civilians were allegedly murdered by soldiers. "It is true that six young men were shot dead by soldiers on February 5 near Donkwe Donkwe school," said the chief.

Father Gabriel had been accused by the government of supplying some of the information used last month by the editor of the British *OBSERVER* newspaper, Donald Trelford, in the controversial article on Matabeleland which led to a showdown between him and the owner of the newspaper, Roland "Tiny" Rowland. Rowland's Lonrho conglomerate has considereable business investments in Zimbabwe and it is widely believed that the publisher-editor feud was dramatised by Mr Rowland to please Mr Mugabe's socialist leaning government, thus protecting Lonrho's interests in Zimbabwe.

Phileas Sithole also maintained that he was at the spot of the shooting of the six, whose names he gave as Benja Ndlovu, Benson Dube, Kay Mhlanga, Motsoto Bulalo, Gibson Moyo, and Oliver Ndlovu, all aged between 20 and 30 years.

The journalists then requested to be taken to the spot of the shooting and where the six were buried, and the general agreed. Led by the chief, relatives of the deceased took us to a place near the school and showed us two mass graves.

Alfred Mvuli, a brother of one of the victims, stood on one of the mass graves, cap in hand and head lowered, and declared solemnly: "My brother is one of the three bodies buried here."

Asked by the Army commander if he was sure that the bodies were inside the grave, Mvuli said that soldiers had visited the graves between April 12 and 13, exhumed the bodies and burnt them. He pointed to burnt trees around the graves as evidence.

At a stage the police commissioner, Wiridzayi Nguruve, shouted on the witness, calling him a dissident. Mvuli shook his head and said: "I know I have betrayed myself by coming here to say these thing."

At the end of the trip, Information Director John Tsimba said that the government had proved that the allegations of genocide were false as "there was not a single evidence in support." He said that the six bodies "allegedly" buried in the two graves at Donkwe Donkwe did not amount to genocide, and that there was no evidence of militarisation of the province as some journalists had reported.

Judging by what we were allowed to see, the scale of the Matabeleland operation might have been exaggerated by foreign correspondents who have had to rely on second-hand information. But any denial that the anti-dissident campaign had been carried out without serious question marks cannot be taken seriously. Even government ministers have admitted that in a situation such as exists in Matabeleland today, innocent civilians might have suffered.

BEELD Asks Boshoff To Resign from Voortrekkers

MB171406 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
10 May 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Time to Go"]

[Text] *BEELD* was the first paper to point out the untenableness of Professor Boshoff's position as leader of the Voortrekker movement [Afrikaner cultural movement]. That was at the time of the South African Bureau of Race Affairs [SABRA] debacle over the new constitutional dispensation. At the time, we made the point that someone surrounded by so much political controversy simply should not be allowed to continue as leader of a

youth movement. Naturally, Prof Boshoff rejected our appeal for his resignation, just as he rejected appeals that he resign as director of SABRA.

In the case of SABRA, his refusal led to the resignation of some members who could not see themselves identifying with that body's rightist political pronouncements made under the cloak of science — and, in so doing, they apparently played right into the hands of a group whose aim it was to use SABRA for their own ends.

This type of thing must not happen to the Voortrekker movement. If Prof Boshoff refuses to understand by-now unsubtle messages being sent to him by the provincial leaders, perhaps it should all be spelled out for him. The Voortrekker movement cannot allow itself to be identified with the political freaks we witnessed recently in Pretoria, with whom Prof Boshoff snugly shares a blanket. Surely there can be no doubt about that.

There are other bodies for whom he has become an embarrasment, like the theological faculty at Potchefstroom University. They will know how to deal with him. But as far as the Voortrekker movement is concerned, he has long been unwelcome. Besides, the movement does not belong to him and his spiritual cohorts, but to the youth who are members and their parents. If Prof Boshoff finally finds it in himself to repair some of the damage he has already done to the movement, he must realize: It is time for him to go.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Hails PRC Relations at Arts Performance

MB171220 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has described Zambia's relations with China as all-weather, saying the Chinese are people Zambians can trust 24 hours a day. He made the remarks last night when he attended a special gala performance by visiting Zhejiang Province arts troupe [words indistinct] from the People's Republic of China at State House.

Dr Kaunda was flanked by party secretary, General Humphrey Mulemba, Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia, and several other top party and government leaders. They were treated to a breathtaking performance by the Chinese troupe, which is scheduled to put on a number of shows in the country.

Later, Dr Kaunda noted that since independence the two countries had cooperated with each other in all the (?five) areas of human endeavors, and that even when Zambia was involved in liberation wars for neighboring states, China had stood by her steadfastly. He added that Zambia was very proud at their friendship with China. He also said that the artists from China had come to cement an already solid relationship, and urged them to feel at home wherever they went in Zambia. China's ambassador to Zambia, Zhang Junhau, said that the presence of Dr Kaunda and other Zambian leaders at the gala premiere [word indistinct] was a clear expression of the warm and friendly relations which have long existed between the two countries.

Swazi 'Treachery' to ANC, Africa Condemned

MB160915 Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 6 May 84 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] Swaziland is really becoming an embarrassing thorn in the flesh for independent Africa in its activities against the liberation struggle in southern Africa in general and the African National Congress of South Africa in particular. First the Swazi Government signed a non-aggression agreement secretly with Pretoria two years ago. Unlike Mozambique, which signed a similar pact on March 16, the Swazis did not have the decency to brief anyone about it, either before or after. As if this was not treacherous enough for Africa and the liberation movements, the Swazi Government decided to round up South African refugees, some of whom had lived in that for 20 years, and threatened to hand them over to the racists in Pretoria.

The pretext for rounding up the refugees was that ANC members reportedly fleeing from Mozambique were causing trouble in Swaziland, but the government has never substantiated this claim, despite repeated appeals from ANC for details of the "trouble".

In fact, the Mbabane government is on record as saying groups of ANC reported to be crossing into Swaziland from South Africa were "foreign criminals". She is now treating them as such to please Pretoria. We understand and appreciate the reasons for Swaziland signing the non-aggression pact with Pretoria. The tiny Kingdom is completely surrounded by South Africa and is entirely dependent on the apartheid state for survival. This, however, does not mean that Swaziland should behave as if it is a province of South Africa and treat their own struggling brothers as enemies. Nor should Mbabane lick the apartheid boot in return for short-term economic gains. By doing this, Swaziland is burying its head in the sand and cannot see into the future. What will happen when apartheid is dismantled and the African majority gain political and economic power in South Africa? Or is Swaziland so convinced that South Africa will perpetually be an apartheid country where an African will have no future? Rather than condemn Swaziland, independent Africa should instead help the poor Kingdom reassert itself as an African country and start behaving like one. She is a lost sheep.

ZIMBABWE

President Receives Message From Iran's Khamene'i

LD171104 Tehran IRNA in English 0852 GMT 17 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 17, IRNA — Iran's international and economics undersecretary at Foreign Affairs Ministry, Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili Wednesday presented President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe with a message form his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i. During the meeting, Kazempur Ardebili also reiterated the Islamic Republic's willingness to further expand ties with Zimbabwe in political, economic and cultural fields. He also briefed Iran's stance vis-a-vis issues confronting the front line countries struggling with the racist South African regime.

The Iranian official referred to various plots of imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East, the Iraqi regime's crimes in the deployment of chemical weapons in its imposed war against Iran, and Iraqi missile attack against oil tankers with an objective to create tension in the Persian Gulf.

Pointing to mutual political stance between Iran and Zimbabwe, Kazempur Ardabili stressed necessity of bilateral cooperation at international bodies on issues pertaining to Africa and the Middle East.

An Iranian political-economic delegation, headed by Kazempur Ardabili, arrived in Zimbabwe Wednesday and was welcomed by the officials of Foreign Ministry of that country.